

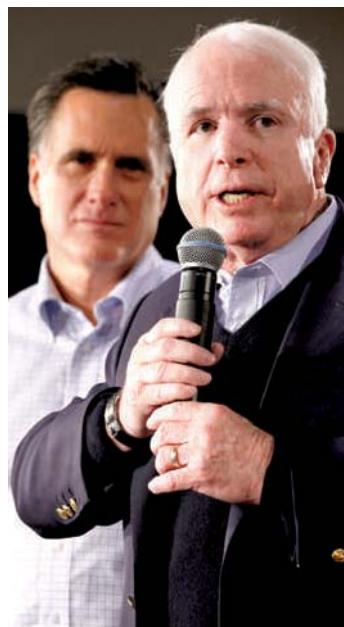
DEFYING GOP, OBAMA FILLS CONSUMER WATCHDOG POST 4

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Thursday



CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

'A WIDE-OPEN RACE'

Romney gets a key endorsement as the GOP field eyes N.H. **3**

A CHILLING EFFECT

Protesters camped in D.C. face a new foe: frigid temperatures **8**

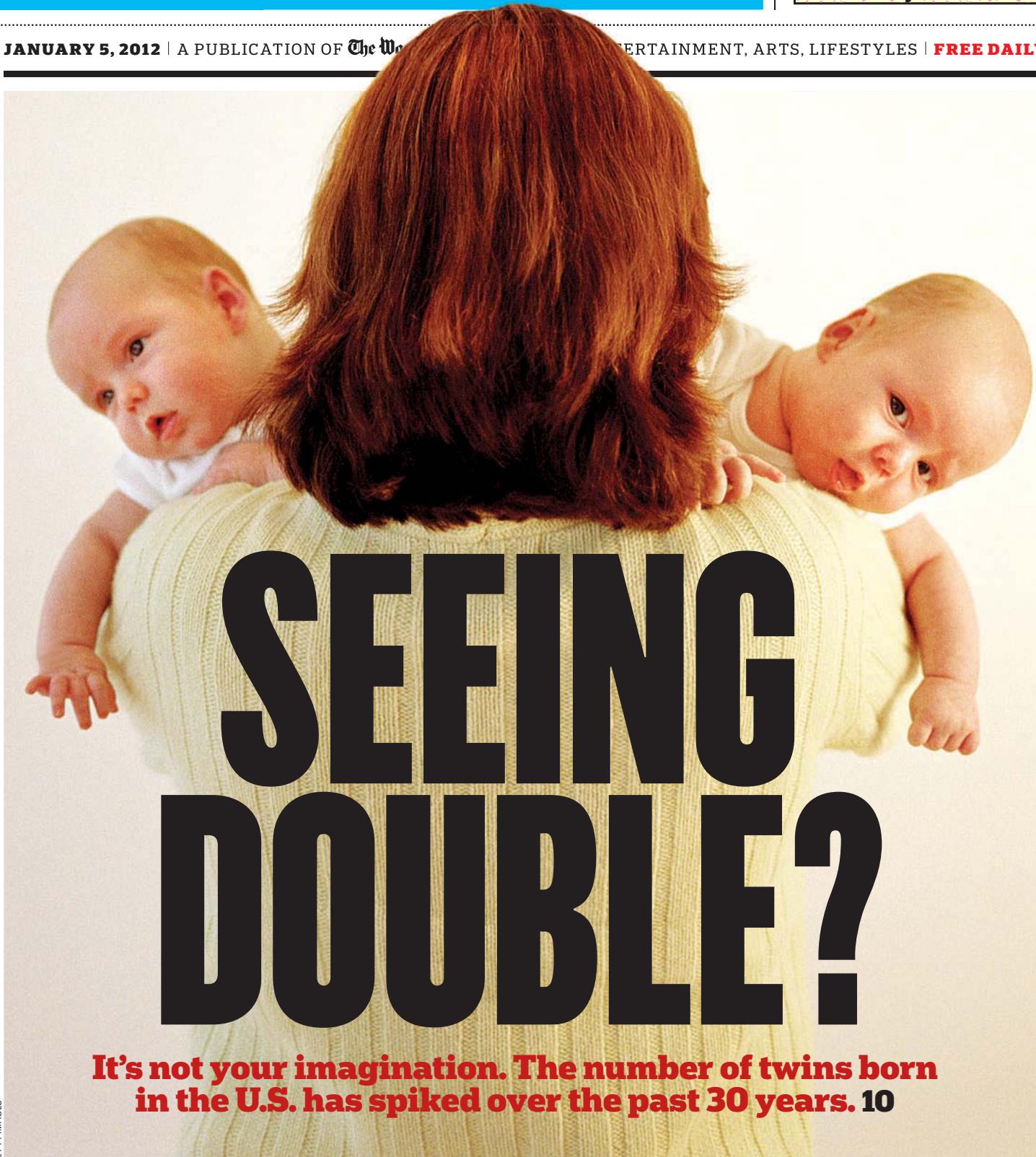
TURNAROUND TIME?

George Mason looks for a rare road victory over Old Dominion **11**



FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 21

JANUARY 5, 2012 | A PUBLICATION OF The Washington Post | ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, LIFESTYLES | FREE DAILY



GETTY IMAGES



eye openers

HOW NOT-ASTONISHING!

ISO: Dismissive Statistician To Take All the Wonder Away

Jan. 4 birthdays have been running in one Toledo, Ohio, family for four generations. Richard Stiff turned 65 on Wednesday; the day is also the 34th birthday of his daughter, Julia Gonyer, and it's the first birthday of Gonyer's daughter, Kourtney. The string began with Stiff's late father, Marshall Stiff, who was born on Jan. 4, 1924. All four family members arrived through unscheduled, natural births. (AP)

"I decided that I will not wait 30 or 40 years for my works to appear at a place like this."

— ANDRZEJ SOBIEPAN, AN ART STUDENT WHO COVERTLY HUNG ONE OF HIS PAINTINGS AT A MAJOR MUSEUM IN POLAND. MUSEUM WORKERS DIDN'T NOTICE THE NEW WORK FOR THREE DAYS. HE SAYS HE WAS INSPIRED BY GRAFFITI ARTIST BANKSY.

INTERNAL MONOLOGUES OF WRY THIEVES

'Egg Salad. Well, Now I Have Two Deadly Weapons on Me.'

The robber who approached a Lexington, Ky., man fueling his car was intent on getting something for his efforts. It turned out it was a sack lunch. City police said the victim was approached Tuesday by a man carrying a knife and who demanded money. When the victim said he had no cash, the robber took what he could find. It was the man's lunch. The thief remains at large. (AP)

© **The Big Picture**

KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/AP



LESS FUN THAN IT LOOKS: Keeper Adrian Walls tries to count the penguins at the London Zoo on Wednesday. Each year, the keepers individually count every animal and species at the zoo. The compulsory count is required as part of the zoo's license. (AP)

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FREE PARKING

In Brief

NEW YORK

Yahoo Names PayPal's Thompson as CEO

Thompson Yahoo Inc. named Scott Thompson, president of eBay Inc.'s PayPal division, as its new CEO Wednesday, the fourth one in less than five years for the struggling Internet company. Thompson's new job starts Jan. 9. (AP)

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS

Police Kill Student Who Was Holding Pellet Gun

Police say the weapon a Texas eighth-grader pointed at officers at Cummings Middle School before they killed him was a pellet gun that looked like a real handgun. Interim Brownsville Police Chief Orlando Rodriguez says 15-year-old Jaime Gonzalez had "plenty of opportunities" to lower the weapon. (AP)

OLYMPIA, WASH.

Gov. Gregoire Supports Gay Marriage Bill

Gov. Chris Gregoire publicly supported legalizing same-sex marriage in Washington state, saying Wednesday that she came to the decision after several years of battling her own uncertainty on the issue and announcing a legalization bill will be introduced next week. (AP)

Romney Takes Momentum to N.H.

McCain endorses GOP candidate after Iowa caucus win

Manchester, N.H.

Mitt Romney eagerly pocketed an endorsement from two-time New Hampshire primary winner John McCain on Wednesday and bid to convert an eight-vote victory in Iowa into a Republican presidential campaign juggernaut.

Former Pennsylvania senator Rick Santorum sought to rally conservatives to his side after coming achingly close to victory in the Iowa caucuses.

Romney is the odds-on favorite to win the New Hampshire primary, and the endorsement of McCain, an Arizona senator, made his welcome in the state a warm one. "The time has arrived for Republicans to choose a presidential nominee, a new standard bearer who has the ability and determination to defeat President Obama," McCain said.

"This is a wide-open race still," added former Utah governor Jon



Sen. John McCain, left, endorses Mitt Romney Wednesday in Manchester, N.H. The Republican hopeful won in Iowa Tuesday, beating Rick Santorum by eight votes.

Huntsman, who skipped the Iowa caucuses in hopes of making his mark in next Tuesday's first-in-the-nation primary.

Already, the Republican field of challengers was dwindling.

Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann ended her campaign after a dreary 5 percent showing in Iowa, the state where she was born. In bowing out, she bestowed no endorse-

ment. Nor did she say whether she intended to seek re-election to the House from Minnesota.

After suggesting he, too, might withdraw, Texas Gov. Rick Perry decided otherwise. "Here we come South Carolina!!!" he tweeted. That primary is Jan. 21 and will mark the first balloting in the South and in a state that is part of the Republican Party's conservative, political

Gloves Are Off

Newt Gingrich's campaign purchased a full-page advertisement Wednesday in the Union Leader, New Hampshire's largest newspaper, calling Romney a Massachusetts moderate. Talking with reporters in Concord, N.H., the former speaker accused his rival of specifically designating "Planned Parenthood as a part of Romney care, appointed liberal judges to placate Democrats and raised taxes on business.... I suspect it's going to be a very lively campaign," he added. (AP)

base nationally.

Santorum is counting on momentum — and perhaps help from outside groups — to carry him to victory in New Hampshire and beyond because he doesn't have the kind of money his competitors have. And he doesn't have much time. New Hampshire's primary is six days away. DAVID ESPO AND KASIE HUNT (AP)



Zombees: California scientists say they have found a possible explanation for a honeybee die-off that has decimated hives around the world: a parasitic fly that deposits its eggs into the bee's abdomen, causing the infected bee to exhibit zombie-like behavior by walking around in circles with no apparent sense of direction. The study, published Tuesday in the science journal PLoS ONE, says the bee leaves the hive at night and dies shortly thereafter. (AP)

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The National Institute of Mental Health is conducting outpatient research studies on fear and anxiety at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

Over a period of one to three visits of one to three hours each, participants will be interviewed and possibly complete a series of computer tasks during which your heart rate will be recorded. Volunteers must be between 18-50 years of age, medically healthy, and not be taking medication. There is no cost for study-related tests. Compensation may be provided.

The NIH Clinical Center, America's research hospital, is located on the Metro red line in Bethesda, Maryland.

For more information, please call:
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Nation

Cordray Named Consumer Chief

Shaker Heights, Ohio

A defiant President Obama, tired of Senate Republicans stalling his nominee to lead a new consumer protection agency, put him in charge Wednesday over their opposition. "I refuse to take 'no' for an answer," the president said.

Outraged GOP leaders in Congress immediately suggested courts would determine whether Ohio Attorney Gen. Richard Cordray's appointment was illegal. The Senate's top Republican, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, accused Obama of an unprecedented power grab.

In political terms, the recess appointment during the congressional break raised the level of confrontation for a president seeking re-election by championing the middle class and challenging an unpopular Congress. By going around the Senate, where Democrats hold an edge but Republicans can block action, Obama essentially declared that the chamber's short off-and-on sessions are a sham intended to block him but don't prevent him from such an appointment.

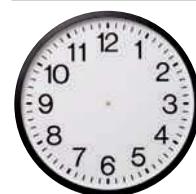
Buyer Protection



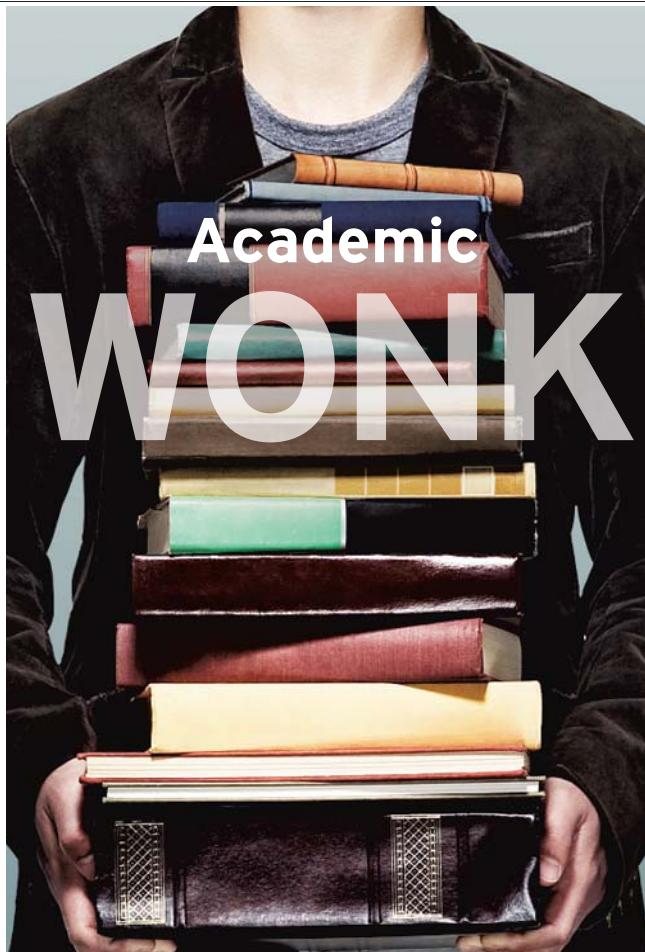
With Richard Cordray as the first director of the new Consumer Financial Protection Agency, President

Obama said the agency can start overseeing the mortgage companies, payday lenders, debt collectors and other financial operations often blamed for practices that helped undermine the economy. Until Cordray took over, the office didn't have all the tools needed "to protect consumers," Obama said. "And that's inexcusable. It's wrong." (AP)

Later, Obama appointed three members to the National Labor Relations Board: Deputy Labor Secretary Sharon Block, union lawyer Richard Griffin and NLRB counsel Terence Flynn. BEN FELLER AND JIM KUHNHENN (AP)



Now You See It ... Scientists made an entire event impossible to see. Think of it as an art heist that takes place before your eyes. You don't see the thief taking the painting or walking away, but he did. Scientists at Cornell University tinkered with the speed of beams of light in a way that would make it appear to surveillance cameras or laser security beams that an event, such as an art heist, isn't happening for 40 trillionths of a second. The study runs in Thursday's edition of the journal Nature. (AP)



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Abused Girl Offers Afghans Hope

Outcry shows signs of gains in women's rights, activists say

Kabul, Afghanistan

Just 15 years old, Sahar Gul has become the bruised and bloodied face of women's rights in Afghanistan. The teenage bride's eyes were swollen nearly shut as she was wheeled into the hospital seven months after her arranged marriage.

The horrific images, captured by television news cameras last week, transfixed Afghanistan and set off a storm of condemnation. The case highlights both the problems and the progress of women 10 years after the Taliban's fall. Gul's wounds and underage wedlock are a reminder that girls and women still suffer shocking abuse. But the public outrage and the government's response to it also show that the country is slowly changing.

"Let's break the dead silence on women's plight," read the title of an editorial Wednesday in the



Cause for Alarm

According to officials in Afghanistan's Baghlan province, 15-year-old Sahar Gul's in-laws kept her in a basement for six months, ripped her fingernails out, tortured her with hot irons and broke her fingers — all in an attempt to force her into prostitution. Police freed her after her uncle called authorities. President Hamid Karzai set up a panel to investigate. Police arrested her in-laws, who denied abusing her. A warrant was issued for her husband, who serves in the Afghan army. For now, Gul remains in a Kabul hospital. An Afghan official said this week that she will be sent to India for further treatment. (AP)

Afghanistan Times.

Fawzia Kofi, a lawmaker and head of the women's affairs commission in the Afghan parliament, says the outcry over a case like Gul's probably would not have happened just a few years ago because of deep cultural taboos against airing private family conflicts and acknowledging sexual abuse.

"There is now a sense of awareness about women's rights," Kofi said. "People seem to be changing and seem to be talking about it."

Ending abuse of women is a huge challenge in a patriarchal society where traditional practices

No. 6

Afghanistan's ranking among the world's worst offenders in the U.N.'s annual Gender Inequality Index. Still, Afghan advocates say attitudes toward women have subtly shifted over the years. (AP)

es include child marriage, giving girls away to settle debts or pay for their relatives' crimes and so-called honor killings in which girls seen as disgracing their families are murdered by their relatives.

Some women activists worry

their hard-won political rights may erode as foreign troops withdraw and Karzai's government seeks to negotiate with the Taliban to end the insurgency. Women's rights, they fear, may be the first to go in any deal with Islamic militants.

Freedoms for women are one of the most visible — and symbolic — changes in Afghanistan since the 2001 U.S.-led campaign that toppled the Taliban regime. Women's groups are pressing Karzai to do more, but most say the real battle will be in police stations and courtrooms. Not least will be persuading Afghans to change their views.

That's why the gruesome story of Gul's imprisonment and torture is seen by some activists as an opportunity for the government to recommit publicly to women's rights. They say they are encouraged that Karzai felt compelled by the outcry to become involved.

"This is a sign of progress in a way," Kofi said. "This is just a small example. We have hundreds of thousands of women like Sahar Gul who are victims of violence, but their voices are not heard."

KAY JOHNSON (AP)



Spas Can Relax: Maldives President Mohammed Nasheed ordered the tourism-dependent country's resorts to reopen their spas on Wednesday, pending a court decision about whether they violate Islam, days after they were shut. Last week, authorities ordered all spas to close, after a Dec. 23 protest in which thousands of people called for a halt to "anti-Islamic" activities, including spas and plans to allow direct flights from Israel. (AP)

In Brief

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Doctors Say President Is OK After Cancer Surgery



Argentine President Cristina Fernandez, 58, was awake and recovering Wednesday after an operation to remove her cancerous thyroid gland. Doctors predicted a complete cure without chemotherapy, saying that the cancer had not spread. (AP)

OSLO, NORWAY

Shooter Is Not Legally Insane, Experts Claim

Prison psychiatrists monitoring confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik, 32, say he is not psychotic and he has not been put on medication, a prosecutor said in a court filing Wednesday, adding fuel to calls to reassess whether he is legally insane. Breivik confessed to killing 77 people in a July 22 bombing and shooting in Norway. (AP)

KINSHASA, CONGO

Official: Militants Kill 26

A military official on Wednesday said at least 26 people have been killed in a series of attacks since New Year's Day by a feared militia in eastern Congo. The Rwandan Hutu militia, known by its French acronym FDLR, has terrorized the region for years. (AP)

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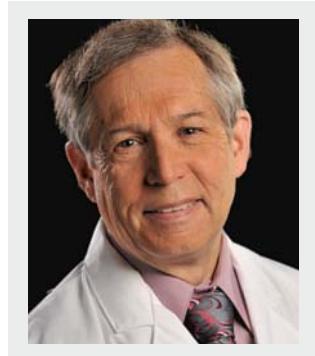
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World

Report: Iran Is Working To Ban Foreign Warships

Tehran, Iran

Iran's parliament said Wednesday it was preparing a bill that would prohibit all foreign warships from entering the Persian Gulf unless they received permission from the Iranian navy.

The bill, disclosed by the semi-official Fars News Agency, surfaced a day after Iran's armed forces commander warned a U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier not to return to the Gulf, remarks that rattled commodities markets and helped drive up oil prices.

The proposed legislation suggested that at least some Iranian officials are serious about trying

to stop the U.S. Navy from entering the oil-rich gulf waters. Iranian analysts said the bill probably would not have been introduced if it were not backed by top officials.

Iranian Defense Minister Ahmad Vahidi restated Iran's position that "transnational forces" have no place in the region. Vahidi also said Iran is willing to organize joint military drills with neighboring countries, Fars reported Wednesday.

The U.S. has dismissed as rhetoric Iran's threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, the entrance to the Persian Gulf, in retaliation for sanctions over its nuclear program.

(THE WASHINGTON POST)

Buddhists Gather for Festival in India



ALTAF QADRI/AP

MONKS CARRY KETTLES to fill with tea to serve to Buddhist pilgrims Wednesday during a religious festival in Bodh Gaya, India. The town, according to tradition, is believed to be the place where Buddha attained enlightenment.

Hearsay

"Drinking loosens tongues, so common sense is needed. ... Some journalists do not practice abstinence."

— A REPORT ISSUED WEDNESDAY BY ELIZABETH FILKIN, A FORMER PARLIAMENTARY STANDARDS CHIEF, WHO WAS COMMISSIONED BY BRITISH POLICE TO EXAMINE THE COZY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U.K. POLICE AND JOURNALISTS THAT LIKELY FACTORED INTO THE ILLEGAL PHONE HACKING BY SOME OF THE COUNTRY'S PRESS.



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Local

In Brief

WASHINGTON

Council Member in Plea Talks With Prosecutors



D.C. Council member Harry Thomas Jr., who is alleged to have steered \$300,000 in city funds to pay for personal expenses that included an Audi SUV, is trying to negotiate a plea agreement with federal prosecutors in the case, according to people familiar with the talks. No agreement has been reached, according to sources. (THE WASHINGTON POST)

RICHMOND, VA.
3 in GOP Join Perry Suit

A federal judge on Wednesday allowed three Republican presidential hopefuls to join Texas Gov. Rick Perry's lawsuit challenging Virginia's ballot access law. U.S. District Judge John A. Gibney Jr. granted a motion by former House speaker Newt Gingrich, former Utah governor Jon Huntsman and former Pennsylvania senator Rick Santorum to intervene in the lawsuit. (AP)

Occupiers Battle New Foe: Cold

Some of 99 percent flee as homeless stay, try to keep warm

Washington

Usually, the Occupy D.C. protesters at Freedom Plaza battle corporate greed and taxes. On Tuesday night, their biggest battle was against hypothermia.

The dwindling number of residents zipped up their tents, swallowed vitamins and swaddled themselves in clothing as temperatures dipped into the teens.

"Thank God I have blankets," said Blair Rush, a 41-year-old homeless woman. "I don't do cold."

Rush doesn't do cold, but she knows cold. She said she has been homeless for four years.

In her mind, there are two sorts of people at Freedom Plaza: the homeless and the Occupy Washington, D.C. folks, or the "99 percent." And when the mercury began to sink, Rush noticed there were fewer occupiers occupying.

Tent covers surrendered them-



Shannon Scannell arranges her tent at the Occupy D.C. camp at McPherson Square Wednesday. Numbers at the park have dwindled as temperatures have hit the teens.

selves to wind gusts, only to reveal no one snuggled underneath them. The sight reaffirmed to Rush that there were class divisions among the 99 percent: Those who can't go home again, and those who choose not to.

Not that Rush faults those who spend the cold nights in a heated place with a roof over their heads. She'd do the same, if she could.

"The hypothermia van stopped by and gave me a blanket," she said.

"And I just hope that there are enough blankets to go to the people who are homeless and not just the 99 percent."

The number of occupiers in D.C. is dwindling. Temperatures are sinking, and people are getting cold.

Meanwhile ...

Members of the Occupy D.C. movement are asking a judge to block the federal government from evicting them and confiscating their tents. In court papers filed Wednesday, a lawyer for the group says he's concerned that U.S. Park Police may seize the tents and other property from the demonstrators at McPherson Square. The court papers say police have taken property belonging to the protesters without notice and without giving them a chance to recover the items. An order from a judge last month required the government to give the protesters 24 hours' notice if it plans to enforce regulations prohibiting camping or sleeping in the square. (AP)

"I'm here as long as we need to be here to make our point," said occupier Jerry Jackson.

"The people that are going to stay are the people who truly believe they are making a difference. The other people will just blow away."

ROBERT SAMUELS (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Women: Is Your Drinking Causing Problems? Do You Drink Alcohol to Help Ease Your Anxiety?

If you are a woman ages 21 to 65 who has tried to stop drinking, or decrease the amount of drinking, but can't, you may be eligible for a research study testing the effectiveness of a new drug for women with alcohol and anxiety problems. This is a five-week inpatient research study at the Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

There is a chance of receiving placebo (an inactive sugar pill).

There is no cost to participate and participants will be compensated.

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www.clinicaltrials.gov

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The Lotteries

Wednesday, Jan. 4

Maryland

Mid-day Pick 3	5-5-7
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)	7-1-8
Mid-day DC 4	5-4-1-7
Evening DC 4 (Tues.)	9-5-9-3
Mid-day D.C. Five	5-1-3-7-1
Evening D.C. Five (Tues.)	2-7-2-4-4

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3	7-3-7
Evening Pick 3 (Tues.)	7-5-8
Mid-day Pick 4	8-8-8-1
Evening Pick 4 (Tues.)	3-1-6-5
Mid-day Cash 5	6-9-11-20-31
Evening Cash 5 (Tues.)	2-14-17-18-34

District

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	7-3-3
Evening Lucky Numbers (Tues.)	9-4-3
Mid-day DC 4	5-4-1-7
Evening DC 4 (Tues.)	9-5-9-3
Mid-day D.C. Five	5-1-3-7-1
Evening D.C. Five (Tues.)	2-7-2-4-4

Multi-State Games

Mega Millions (Tues.)	2-3-15-22-36 (23)
Mega Ball	2X

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a claims location. Drawings that occur after Express' deadline will be published two days later.



The End of Two Eras

It's not a good week for independent stores. First, D.C.'s Melody Record Shop called it quits on Tuesday. Then, Penn Camera Exchange filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection Wednesday. The Beltsville, Md.-based retailer, with eight locations in the area, is shrinking after 58 years in business due to "a dramatic decline in sales," according to a release. Five of its stores will close immediately, and the remaining stores will hold clearance sales. (THE WASHINGTON POST)



Cold Shock to the System

Wednesday-morning commute delayed by sharp drop in temps

Transportation

Sub-freezing temperatures caused rush-hour delays on four of Metro's five lines Wednesday morning, cracking sections of rail along two stretches of track and turning an already cold commute into a frigid marathon for some riders.

Temperatures in the D.C. region went from a balmy 60 degrees on Sunday to the 40s on Monday, and then dropped to 17 degrees at Rea-

gan National Airport by Wednesday morning, according to the National Weather Service.

That caused a shock to the steel rails on Metro's tracks, said Metro's chief spokesman, Dan Stessel.

"When you go from mild temperatures and then you have a sharp and sudden drop in temperatures, the metal rails contract and cracks can develop," he said.

On the Yellow Line, a four-inch gap opened in a rail along the bridge across the Potomac River, Stessel said, and a quarter-inch gap was found in a rail on the Red Line near the Takoma station.

The Yellow Line crack was detected around 6:30 a.m., Stessel said, when a light signaled that there was a problem. The crack on the Red Line was detected around 7:30 a.m. in a similar way, he said.

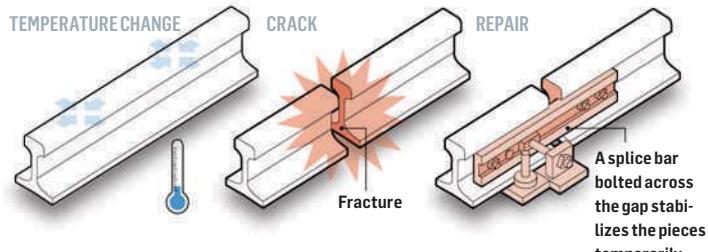
It can be unsafe to run trains over cracked rail lines so rail service had to be suspended and inbound and outbound trains shared a single track on both the Yellow and Red lines, Stessel said.

Riders on the Blue and Green lines experienced delays due to congestion near the Potomac River bridge.

DANA HEDGPETH (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Too Cold Too Soon

Metro tracks were shocked by Tuesday's dip in temperature. Cracks developed in two steel rails, splitting track sections on the Yellow and Red lines.



After reaching 60 degrees over the weekend, the temperature dipped to 17 at National Airport on Tuesday night, which matched the coldest temperature of last year's frosty winter. The track contracted because cold atoms move more slowly and stay closer together.

The sudden contraction caused two sections of track to crack and the pieces to pull apart. A four-inch gap opened in a particularly exposed Yellow Line rail on the bridge across the Potomac River. Another quarter-inch gap was found in a Red Line rail near the Takoma station.

The smaller Red Line crack was temporarily bridged with a "splice bar" that held the pieces together so trains could use that section of track. The 39-foot section was replaced after morning rush hour. The Yellow Line gap was too large to repair, so Metro replaced that section immediately.

BONNIE BERKOWITZ AND ALBERTO CUADRA/THE WASHINGTON POST
SOURCE: DAN STESEL OF WMATA, CAPITAL WEATHER GANG

Weekend Track Work



From Friday, January 13 at 10 p.m. to Monday, January 16 at closing: Buses replace trains on the Blue and Orange Lines between L'Enfant Plaza and Eastern Market stations.

Temporarily closing stations and suspending train service is necessary while Metro installs NTSB-recommended guarded #8 switches.

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Cover Story

Twin Births Soar in U.S.

Fertility therapies and a later start to families fuel the pregnancy trend

Washington

The number of twins born in the U.S. soared over the last three decades, mostly the result of test-tube babies and women waiting to have children until their 30s, when the chances of twins increase.

In 2009, 1 in every 30 babies born in the U.S. was a twin, an astounding increase over the 1 in 53 rate in 1980, according to a government report issued Wednesday.

"When people say it seems like you see more twins nowadays, they're right," said Joyce Martin, who co-authored the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report.

An increase was expected as more women are delaying starting a family until they are over 30. For some reason, mothers in their 30s are more likely to have twins than younger or older women. As much as a third of the increase can be attributed to that, Martin said. The rest is due to fertility drugs and treatments.

"You have a double whammy going on. There are more older moms and more widespread use of fertility-enhancing therapies," Martin said.

Starting in the early 1980s, couples who had trouble conceiving began to benefit from such medical advances as fertility drugs and in vitro fertilization.

Over the last three decades, rates rose for white, black and Hispanic women, though the increases were not uniform. Historically, black moms have twins most

often, but white moms have almost caught up.

While a lot of attention is focused on fertility treatments, that's not the only factor.

"I never knew how many twins were around until I got twins."

— VICTORIA JACOBSON, A MOTHER OF TWINS, WHO SAYS SHE'S "STOPPED AT EVERY CORNER" BY MOMS WHO ALSO HAVE TWINS OR WHO KNOW OF OTHER TWINS.

Research has suggested women in their late 30s are more likely to produce multiple eggs in a cycle, increasing their chances of twins.

And there are more older moms. In recent years, more than a third of all births have been to women 30 and older, up from just one-fifth in 1980.

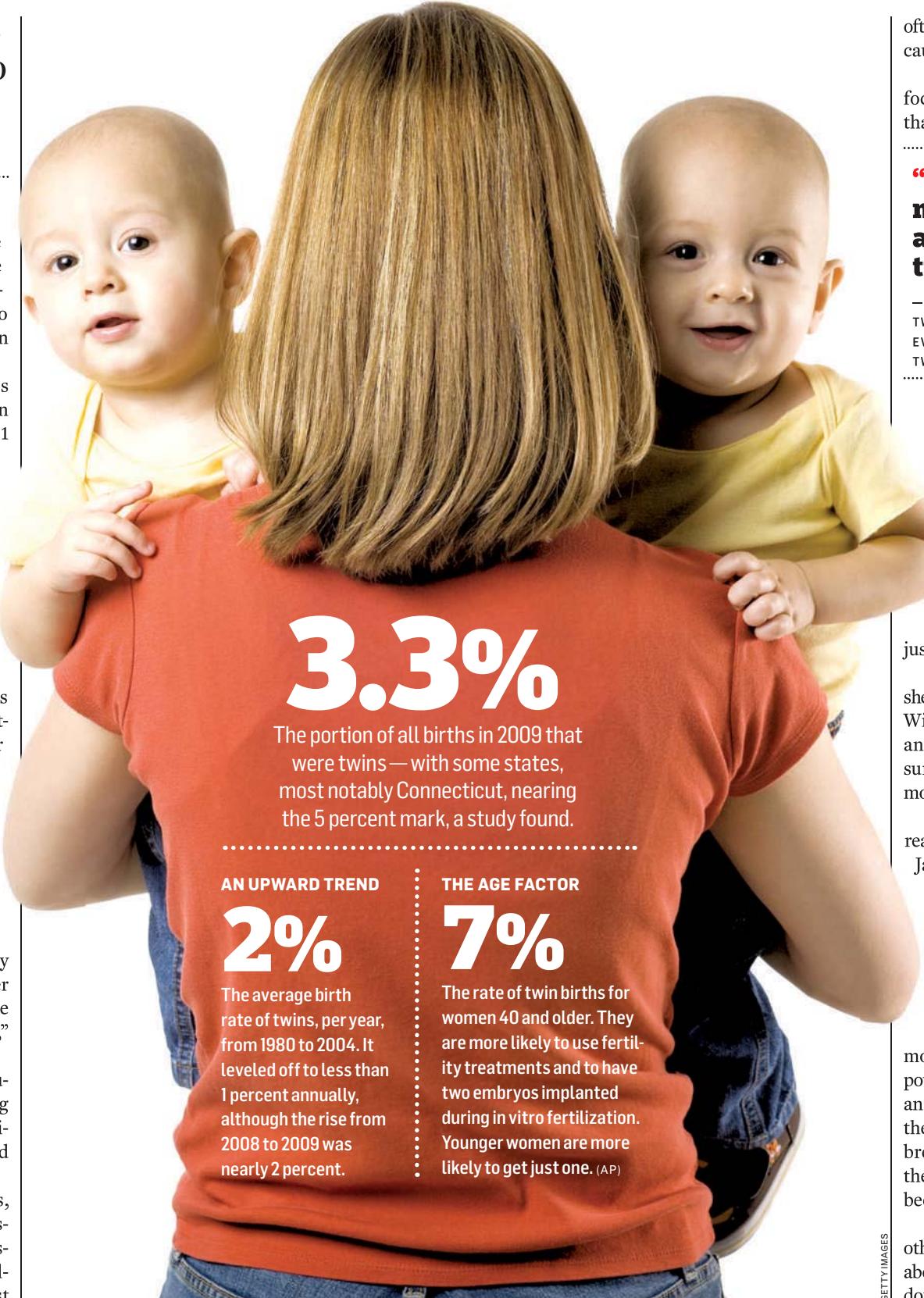
Take Victoria Jacobson. At 31, she gave birth to twin girls in April. With no family history of twins, and no fertility drugs, it was a big surprise when she found out at six months pregnant.

"I cried, because I'm more of a realist. My husband laughed," said Jacobson, of Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Are more twins good news? Some experts say the trend is worrisome, noting that multiple births are more dangerous. The infants tend to be born earlier, smaller and weaker.

Jacobson's twins, born a month early, were tiny, about 3 pounds each, and were cared for in an intensive care unit. At 8 months, they are small but doing fine. But breast-feeding two and getting them on the same schedule hasn't been easy, she said.

Still, she has this advice for other moms of twins: Don't "think about it as double trouble. It's still a double blessing." MIKE STOBBE (AP)



GETTY IMAGES

Sports



"So we're just starting to form a psychology we'd like to have in competition. They've hung together through the ups and downs."

The teams also differ in their early-season schedules. Six of George Mason's victories have come against teams with a combined 15-73 record entering Wednesday's games. Its most notable win was at the College of Charleston last week. The Monarchs have been tested — and defeated — by Northern Iowa, Kentucky, Richmond and Missouri.

The difficult nonconference assignments, Taylor said, should leave the Monarchs battle-tested for the rigors of the CAA.

"We are a little bit more — I don't want to say fearless — but more aggressive in that I really don't worry about a loss here or there as long as it maybe gives us a chance at something like playing Missouri or Kentucky," said Taylor, whose team lost to the seventh-ranked Tigers by seven and the No. 2 Wildcats by 10.

"There are teams in our league similar to Richmond or Missouri. There is no one in our league similar to Kentucky."

"It's not like [the losing streak is] a secret, but at the same time, it's not a major aspect of our preparation."

— PAUL HEWITT, HEAD BASKETBALL COACH AT GEORGE MASON, WHICH HASN'T WON IN NORFOLK IN EIGHT YEARS.

Despite their returning firepower, the Patriots have had to adjust as well, with a new coach and Cornelius' return from a 10-game suspension. In his fourth appearance Monday, the senior guard made five 3-pointers and had 20 points to spark a comeback victory against the Tribe.

"He's starting to get back into the rhythm of things," Hewitt said. "If not for Andre, we would've had a hard time winning that basketball game." STEVEN GOFF
(THE WASHINGTON POST)

In Brief



Joe Torre managed the Dodgers from '08 to '10, before joining the league office.

PRO BASEBALL

Torre Resigns to Pursue Dodgers Ownership Bid

Joe Torre resigned Wednesday as Major League Baseball's executive vice president for baseball operations to join a group trying to buy the Los Angeles Dodgers. Torre managed the Dodgers from 2008 to 2010, then retired and joined MLB last February as a top aide to Commissioner Bud Selig. He is part of a group headed by real estate developer Rick Caruso. (AP)

PRO BASKETBALL

Spurs' Ginobili to Have Surgery on Broken Hand

Spurs guard Manu Ginobili will have surgery on his broken left hand and is expected to be out at least two months after his latest injury. Ginobili tweeted Wednesday that he'll have a plate screwed onto his shooting hand Thursday. He broke his fifth metacarpal, below his pinkie, during the second quarter of a loss at Minnesota on Monday night. "Not thrilled," Ginobili tweeted. (AP)

PRO HOCKEY

Rangers' Coach Sorry For Comments on Refs

New York Rangers coach John Tortorella said Wednesday that he was sorry for calling the officiating in Monday's NHL Winter Classic "disgusting." "I tainted the Winter Classic with my mouth and I shouldn't have," Tortorella said. "So I apologize to everyone involved." Tortorella said he was being sarcastic in comments made after New York's 3-2 win over the Philadelphia Flyers on Monday came down to a penalty shot with 20 seconds left. (AP)

A Colonial Colossus

GMU looks to grab a rare road victory against conference foe Old Dominion

College Basketball

In the aftermath of George Mason's 70-56 victory over William & Mary on Monday, the locker room was buzzing about Thursday's game at Old Dominion. The Patriots haven't won in Norfolk in almost eight years — not during their Final Four run in 2006, not during last winter's sensational regular season.

In recent years, they've ended dreary streaks at Northeastern and UNC Wilmington. A victory



7 P.M.
Thursday
CSN



at Constant Center, however, has remained elusive.

"It's something to check off the list," senior forward Mike Morrison said.

Four of the losses during the seven-game stretch were by a combined nine points. Last year, with the Patriots trailing by two, Andre Cornelius missed a 3-pointer with four seconds left and the Monarchs survived, 69-65.

Speaking on the losing streak at ODU, Paul Hewitt, the Patriots' first-year coach, said his players "realize it because right after the [William & Mary] game, the first

thing they said was that we hadn't won [down] there in awhile. So it's not like it's a secret, but at the same time, it's not a major aspect of our preparation for the game. It's about preparing for ODU."

Aside from their 2-0 records in the Colonial Athletic Association, the teams have little in common. The Patriots (10-4 overall) have won eight of 10, while the Monarchs (7-7) ended a 1-4 rut with an overtime victory at James Madison on Monday.

The Patriots returned a strong nucleus from a 27-win squad last year, while the Monarchs are finding their way after bringing back just one high-profile player (senior guard Kent Bazemore) from a 27-win team of its own.

"Our resiliency has grown," said Monarchs coach Blaine Taylor, whose team has played four overtime games. "We're gradually developing a little bit of an identity. We were really a man without a country: We wanted to be what we were before, but we had so many new pieces and missing pieces."

Sports

100-Yard Smash



ALEX LIVELY/GETTY IMAGES

BOLTON GOALKEEPER

Adam Bogdan tries to save a shot from his goalie counterpart, Tim Howard, in the first half of a 2-1 loss to Everton in the English Premier League Wednesday. Howard scored on a clearance that bounced in.

Backstrom Head Tests Unclear

The Capitals

In a pair of tweets Wednesday morning, the brother of Nicklas Backstrom said the Capitals' top center was tested for a concussion that day after taking an elbow to the head in a 3-1 win over Calgary Tuesday night but that the results are inconclusive.

"Test done and the dr couldn't tell today but a small concussion/migraine. Have to wait for tmrw and a new test," wrote Kristoffer Backstrom in the second tweet.

Backstrom was elbowed in the head by Calgary's Rene Bourque midway through the second period Tuesday night. He returned to the ice for the remainder of the power



MITCHELL LAYTON/NHLI VIA GETTY IMAGES

The Capitals' Nick Backstrom took a hit to the head Tuesday against the Flames.

play and for two more shifts, but then the Capitals took him out of the game for evaluation with 3:19 remaining.

Coach Dale Hunter said that Backstrom took part in an off-ice workout with teammates Wednesday but that the center will continue to be evaluated.

"We're evaluating, and it's one of those things where you evaluate it for a few days and see how he is," Hunter said when asked whether there was an indication of a concussion.

While it's not clear precisely what aftereffect the elbow may have had on Backstrom, it's worth noting that the 24-year-old has a history of migraine headaches that in previous seasons forced him to leave games early.

Bourque, a repeat offender, had a disciplinary hearing Wednesday.

KATIE CARRERA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

TV Lineup

COLLEGE HOOPS (7 P.M., ESPN2)

No-longer-ranked Pittsburgh travels to face a DePaul team that lost its Big East opener to No. 1-ranked Syracuse. Later, No. 16 Michigan packs up for Assembly Hall to play the exciting No. 12-ranked Indiana in a Big 10 battle.

COLLEGE HOOPS (11 P.M., FSN)

Surging Arizona heads to Anaheim to face a down UCLA team in the PAC-12.

NBA (8 P.M., 10:30 P.M., TNT)

The Heat tries to avenge its first loss of the season on the road against the Hawks, who haven't lost at home yet. In the late game, the Trailblazers host a Lakers team with no road victories.

PREP FOOTBALL (7:30 P.M., ESPN)

The country's best look to impress in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

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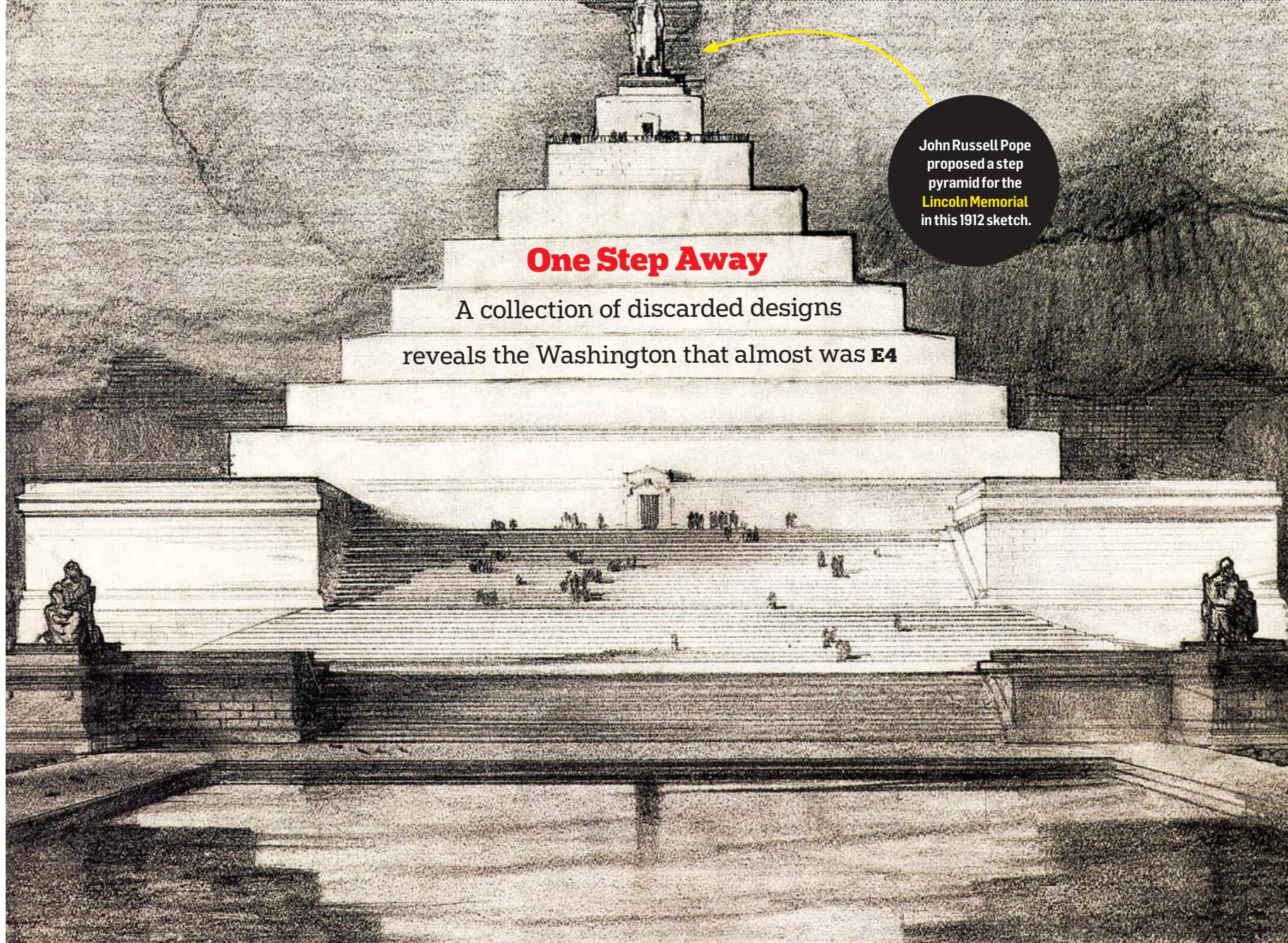
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on the spot

IN THE HOSPITAL for what turned out to be just a health scare a few years ago, Eric Weiner realized — deep-down-in-the-gut realized — we're all going to die. He began looking for God in earnest, sampling religions such as Tibetan Buddhism and Raëliism, a UFO-happy cult. His new book, "Man Seeks God" (\$27, Twelve), shadows his journey from uncertainty to more uncertainty.

Do you feel like this approach to finding God is gimmicky?

It was a serious search. I really was and still am looking for something. I wasn't just dabbling. It was sort of like a wine tasting. You're trying different wines, but just a few sips of each, trying to decide if you want to buy a bottle or a whole case.

You were skeptical not about basic religious tenets — like "love your neighbor" — but about the rituals. Rituals are Post-it notes for the brain. They're little reminders. No ritual ever starts off meaningless — it only becomes that way over time. You strip away the crazy rituals and the liturgy and everything else, and at the core of every religion you have these teachings about how to live your life.

To stay true to your mission, you had to embrace what initially seemed nonsensical to you.

Religion is nonsensical in that there's always an element of irrationality. But I think it's good. If reason were enough to be ecstatically happy, college campuses would



CHUCK BERMAN

Eric Weiner

AUTHOR, 'MAN SEEKS GOD'

"If atheists were smart, instead of attacking religion, they would borrow from it."

be filled with ecstatically happy professors.

So you didn't come out of this search having chosen a religion — but you're definitely not an atheist, it sounds like.

I think if atheists were smart, instead of attacking religion, they would borrow from it. There is wisdom out there, and if you extract the nonsense and sometimes intolerance, you can get some teachings that are pretty wise.

FIONA ZUBLIN (EXPRESS)

• Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW; Sat., 6 p.m., free; 202-364-1919, Politics-prose.com. (Van Ness)



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Self-Help for Nerds

Chris Hardwick aims to move geeks off the sofa and into real life

Comedy

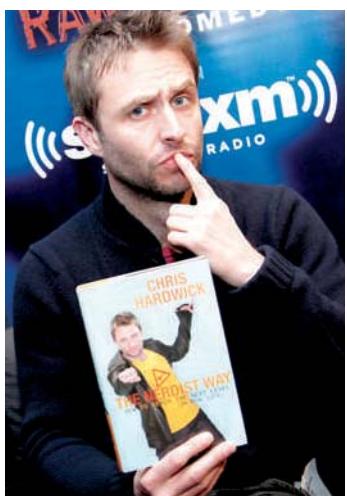
In his first book, "The Nerdist Way" (\$25, Berkley), comedian Chris Hardwick describes a Nerdist as "an artful nerd." A Nerdist "doesn't just consume," he writes. "He or she creates and innovates."

The Nerdists' moment is now, Hardwick argues, but not all are fully equipped for success. "Nerds have an unnatural ability to focus on things at a molecular level," Hardwick says, "and they do it at

the expense of everything else in their lives."

In other words, you can play Xbox 360 all day if want, but that's not going to get you a job or a mate. So, Hardwick wrote a self-help book to get nerds off the couch. Sample passage: "We love to talk about the butterfly effect in terms of time-travel movies. Why can't the same be true for lifestyle changes?" (Translation: Small changes can have dramatic, lasting effects.)

Hardwick, 39, started out nerdy. He was a member of the chess club and a player of Dungeons & Dragons, passions that got him stuffed in a trash can by bullies. But at age



Chris Hardwick was overweight and unhappy until he found the Nerdist Way.

"I was a huge screw-up, and I had to turn to all the nerdy sides of my brain to pull myself out."

— CHRIS HARDWICK, BORN-AGAIN NERD

22, Hardwick's image was transformed when he landed a job hosting the MTV dating show "Singled Out." Young and naive, Hardwick proceeded to drink his way through his 20s.

In 2003, he resolved to get sober and return to his roots. By focusing his mind, getting healthier and developing hobbies other than partying, Hardwick transformed himself into the Ryan Seacrest of geeks with "The Nerdist," a weekly pod-

cast that spawned a live performance series (essentially Hardwick and his co-hosts Matt Mira and Jonah Ray doing stand-up) and TV specials for BBC America. He also hosts "Web Soup" on G4 and "Talking Dead," a live show that follows "The Walking Dead" on AMC.

You could say Hardwick has been reformed by Nerdism. "I tend to get a lot of stuff done in a day, and I didn't in my 20s," he says. "I was a huge screw-up, and I had to turn to all the nerdy sides of my brain to pull myself out."

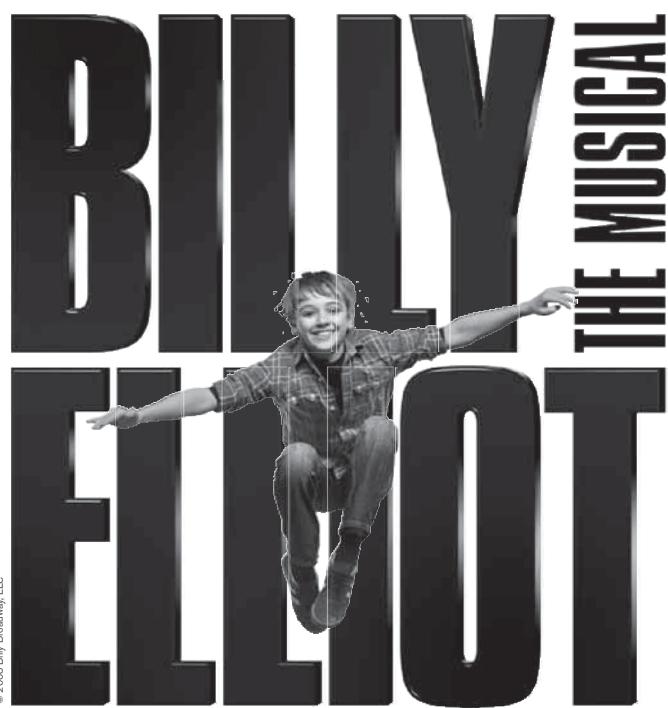
RUDI GREENBERG (EXPRESS)

• 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; with Matt Mira, Jonah Ray; Fri., sold out; 202-265-0930, 930.com. (U St.-Cardozo)

Sites Unseen needs new glasses. It will return next week.

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— THE WASHINGTON POST



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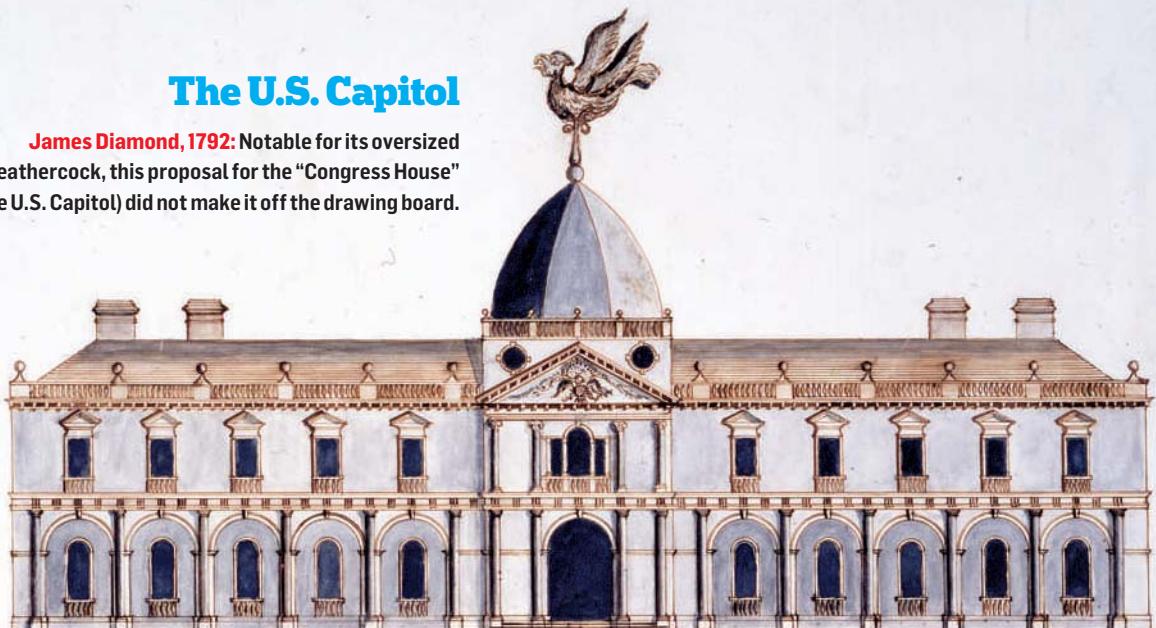


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The U.S. Capitol

James Diamond, 1792: Notable for its oversized weathercock, this proposal for the "Congress House" (the U.S. Capitol) did not make it off the drawing board.



To the Hon^{ble} Commissioners of the FEDERAL Buildings &c. An ELEVATION for a CAPITOL
By James Diamond of Somerset Co^e State of Maryland for PLAN N^o. 2.

never materialized in any way, such as a tribute to moms (Joseph Geddes' Mother's Memorial, envisioned in the 1920s) and Frank Lloyd Wright's 1940s plan for the Crystal Heights complex of apartment and retail buildings, which would have towered over Northwest Washington.

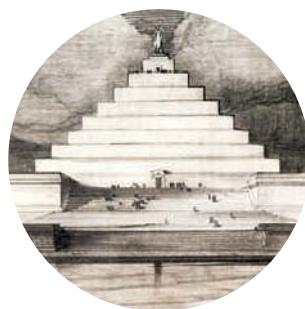
In competitions such as the one held to design the Capitol (which was won by physician and amateur architect William Thornton), the work of runners-up were often saved for posterity. "Unbuilt's" rejected contest entries include designs for the "President's House" (the White House), the Washington Monument and the Library of Congress.

"There tended to be a sense that a competition was a really good way to unearth ideas," Moeller says. The city's planners "really wanted to, if not go after new talent, at least get a broad range of ideas and see what might be best."

IMAGES COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM

"A lot of things that now seem right didn't necessarily seem so obvious to us 100 or 200 years ago."

— G. MARTIN MOELLER JR.,
"UNBUILT WASHINGTON" CURATOR



On the Cover

Pyramids were seriously considered for both the Lincoln and Washington monuments. John Russell Pope put forward this 1912 proposal for the Lincoln Memorial featuring a step pyramid—"more of a Mesopotamian version of the pyramid than an Egyptian one," Moeller notes. "Most people laugh when they see [the pyramid proposals]," he says. "And yet, the monument to Washington is an obelisk also derived from an ancient Egyptian form."

Rejects' Revival

'Unbuilt Washington' rescues alternate visions of the capital from obscurity

"I call this the screaming chicken," says curator G. Martin Moeller Jr., pointing to a bird of indeterminate species perched atop an otherwise stately building in a 1792 sketch — a proposal for the U.S. Capitol. The bird is as wide as the dome it stands on. "I believe it was intended to be an eagle," Moeller says.

Though it's amusing to picture a gigantic chicken stretching its wings above the Capitol today (or, for a better visual, on Inauguration Day), amateur architect James Diamond's drawing was a serious entry in a national competition. It's one of many works in the National Building Museum's "Unbuilt Washington" exhibit that force viewers to reimagine the District's skyline as it could have been, had history gone just a little differently.

"A lot of things that now seem right didn't necessarily seem so obvious to us 100 or 200 years ago," says Moeller.

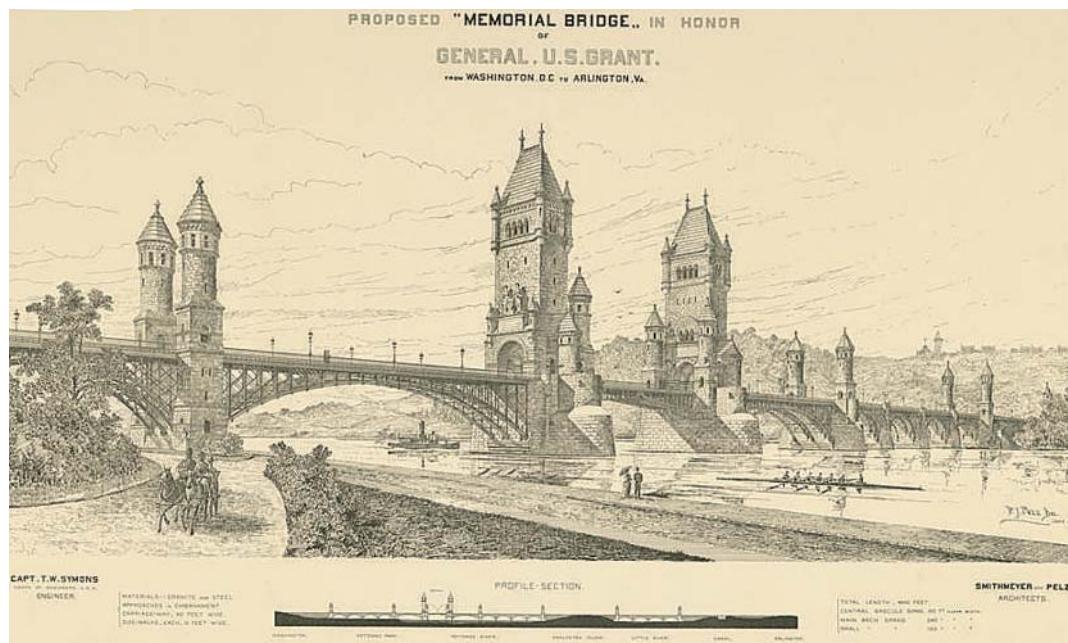
The show displays proposals submitted throughout Washington's history, in the form of sketches, blueprints, paintings, models and video presentations. Not all were the results of contests. Some were proposals for structures that

Of course, allowing public input on decisions that would shape the landscape of the city meant that many projects were contentious, "particularly with very prominent public buildings," Moeller says. "Those are meaningful to a lot of people, so people feel a certain ownership of those designs."

Most recently, Washingtonians saw such intense, personally felt debate spurred by the construction of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial (not included in the exhibit), proposed as early as 1984 but not completed until 2011.

Historically, perhaps an even more divisive project was the Lincoln Memorial. "Even the location at the western end of the Mall was

entertainment | Weekend Pass



Memorial Bridge

Smithmeyer & Pelz, 1887: This proposal for the "Memorial Bridge in Honor of General U.S. Grant" envisioned a Gothic-style bridge featuring elaborate, dramatic turrets at roughly the same site as the current home of the Memorial Bridge. The duo depicted one feature that is still easy to observe at the Memorial Bridge: a crew team rowing on the Potomac.



The 'President's House'

Signed by A.Z. (assumed to be Thomas Jefferson), 1792:

Moeller and other historians believe Thomas Jefferson anonymously submitted this plan for the "President's House" to a contest to design the structure. Jefferson, who was secretary of state at the time this drawing was made, "would not want to have had the project considered or rejected solely because of who the designer was. But he couldn't resist drawing something himself," Moeller says.

controversial," Moeller says. "At the time, that spot was new land, landfill that had been created only about a generation earlier by the Corps of Engineers when they were dredging the Potomac. It was totally undeveloped, and a lot of people considered it to be a swamp. Many were actually offended by the idea that someone wanted to build a memorial to Abraham Lincoln on that site."

It's difficult to imagine the Mall without its iconic Greek temple-style tribute to Lincoln (not that that necessarily makes sense; as Moeller says, "What connection did Abraham Lincoln possibly have to ancient Greece?"). But there's no way to predict those sorts of attitude shifts, or even the shape, style or location of landmarks to come, he says.

"One of the messages of the show is that there's nothing about all of the buildings we see in Washington now, or the buildings we can see for the future, that's pre-destined." KATIE ABERBACH (EXPRESS)

• **National Building Museum, 401 F St. NW; through May 28, \$5-\$8; 202-272-2448, Nbm.org. (Judiciary Square)**



Washington Monument grounds

The Senate Park Commission, 1901-1902: At first glance, this artistic rendering of the National Mall seems to portray the heart of Washington as we know it today. Look more closely to see a number of subtle landscaping differences, such as the symmetrical terraced gardens in the foreground, and wide steps and a circular pool to the immediate west of the Washington Monument.



BY DONALD MARGULIES

Time Stands Still

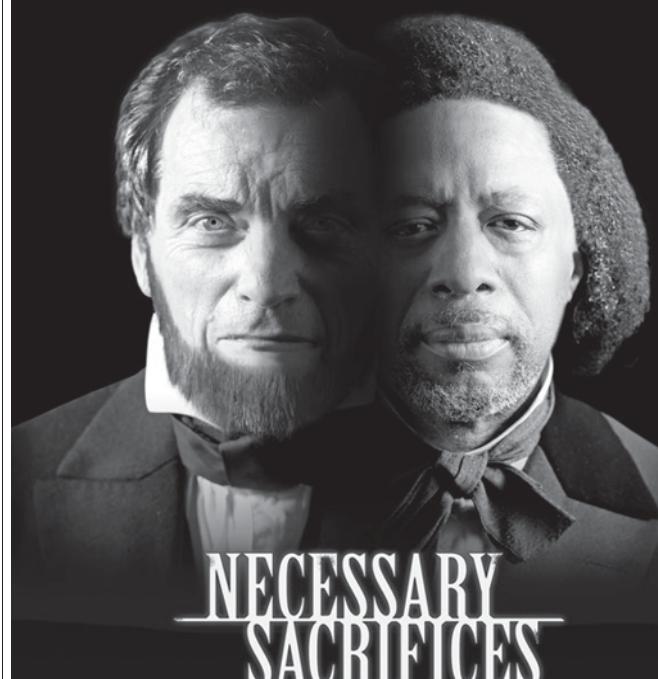
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JANUARY

JB Smoove (of HBO's <i>Curb Your Enthusiasm</i>) <i>Early Show! 7pm Doors. Mature content. This is a seated show.</i>	Sa 14
BLOWOFF featuring the DJ Sounds of Bob Mould & Richard Morel 21+ to enter.	Sa 14
The Morrison Brothers Band w/ Deaf Dog and the Indictments	Th 19
ALL GOOD PRESENTS	
Collie Buddz w/ Zion I & New Kingston	F 20
Bach2Rock <i>Matinee Show! 11am Doors</i>	Sa 21
Ozomatli w/ Chopteeth Afrofunk Big Band	Sa 21
D.R.U.G.S. w/ Hit the Lights • Like Moths to Flames • Sparks The Rescue • My Arcadia	Tu 24
Coeur De Pirate w/ Leif Vollebekk	W 25
Cowboy Mouth w/ The Assembly Line	Th 26
Big Head Todd and the Monsters	F 27

FEBRUARY

Kathleen Edwards w/ Hannah Georgas	F 3
Augustana w/ Graffiti 6 & Say Chance	Sa 4
Bone Thugs-n-Harmony	Su 5
Theophilus London	M 6
George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic	Tu 7
The Darkness w/ Foxy Shazam	W 8

ALL GOOD PRESENTS

Rebirth Brass Band w/ The Funk Ark	Th 9
Jack's Mannequin w/ Jukebox the Ghost & Allen Stone	F 10 & Sa 11
Die Antwoord	Su 12
ALL GOOD PRESENTS	
Big Gigantic w/ Adventure Club	F 17
ALL GOOD PRESENTS	
Tea Leaf Green w/ Ha Ha Tonka	Sa 18
Next Big Thing featuring over 20 up and coming local bands	Su 19
Galactic featuring Corey Glover (of Living Colour) and Corey Henry (Rebirth Brass Band) w/ The Soul Rebels	Th 23
Attack Attack! w/ The Ghost Inside • Sleeping with Sirens • Chunk! No, Captain Chunk!	F 24

W 29 - SOLD OUT!

O.A.R. <i>Extended Stay</i>	Tu 28
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MARCH

Corey Smith	Sa 3
Lights	M 5
Bombay Bicycle Club w/ The Darcys & Lucy Rose	W 7

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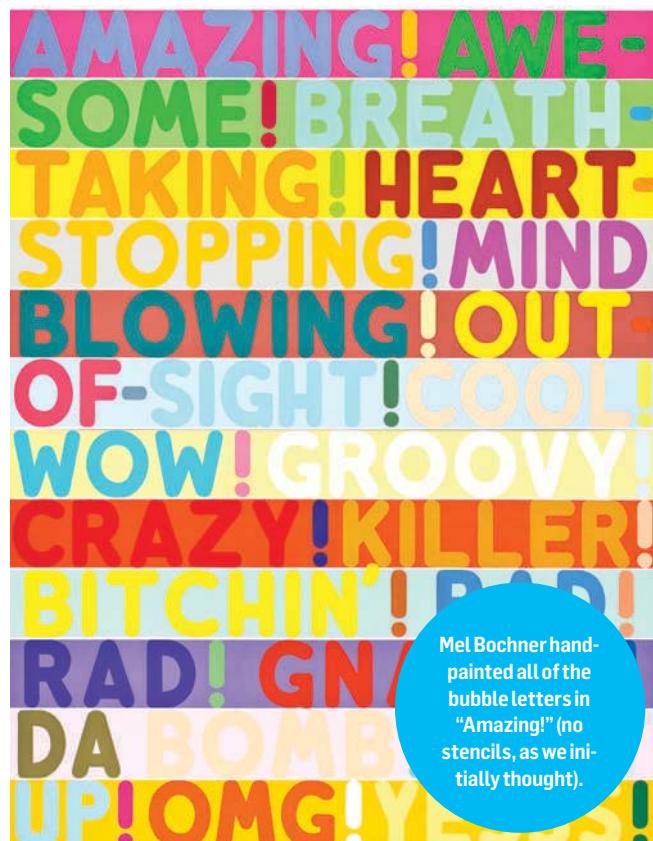
Artist Mel Bochner's thesaurus-inspired works capture change in culture and vocab

Exhibits

The National Gallery of Art's "Mel Bochner: In the Tower" show is more than just a retrospective of the artist's thesaurus-inspired works — it's a look back at the evolution of the English language.

"Words change over time, meanings flip," says Bochner, a longtime figure in the world of conceptual art. "When I was younger, a bomb was a terrible thing. Now, 'the bomb' is the best thing. The thesaurus unwittingly tracks those changes of meaning."

Bochner's word-filled works in paint, pen and ink are like lessons in vocab history. The NGA show highlights two particularly verbose periods of Bochner's career: the 1960s, when the art-



Mel Bochner hand-painted all of the bubble letters in "Amazing!" (no stencils, as we initially thought).

COURTESY PETER FREEMAN INC.

ist was in his 20s and creating groundbreaking pen-on-paper "portraits" of friends composed of synonyms describing them; and the 2000s, which found him making colorful, large-scale paintings filled with riffs on "key words" and related phrases.

Last year's "Amazing!" gives viewers a crash course in the colloquial accolades of the past four decades. In meticulously rendered bubble letters, Bochner lays out a somewhat chronological list of words that mean "amazing," including "Out-of-sight!" "Groovy!" and "OMG!"

It's a stark contrast to the smaller, more stoic compilations of words in his earlier work, which seem torn straight from the pages of a reference book: His 1966 black and white "Portrait of Robert Smithson," for example, is a much more restrained extrapolation on the theme of repetition, featuring words such as "recurrent, recurring, returning, reappearing."

Inspiration Spoken Subjects

Mel Bochner says he sometimes consults a thesaurus when working on his word-based pieces. But he usually stumbles upon interesting vocabulary in his ordinary life and lets his curiosity steer his output. "I write down words all the time," he says, "things overheard in conversation, maybe on the subway, maybe something one of my kids says, a friend, something I read in a book or hear on TV. I'll say, 'That's an interesting word; I wonder what its etymology is.' And then I look it up." K.A.

"What's considered ordinary language has changed radically in 40 years," Bochner says. "That slowly dawned on me. I didn't go into this knowing I'd discover that."

KATIE ABERBACH (EXPRESS)

• *National Gallery of Art, 4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; through April 8, free; 202-737-4215, Nga.gov. (Archives)*

Always Up For a Change

Akron/Family readies for a second decade of experimental rock

Music

As Akron/Family enters its 10th year, the members of the Brooklyn-based psych-rock band have made a far-reaching New Year's resolution: to entertain every new idea that presents itself.

"I think 2012 is going to be a cool year for us," says Seth Olinsky, one of the group's three singer/multi-instrumentalists. "We'll be collaborating with other musicians,

doing new projects, and exploring new ideas, so, hopefully, everything will coalesce into new sounds for the next record."

The band plans to begin recording its seventh album in the fall, and in the meantime, two Family members have solo albums ready for release. The band is also launching a new record label, Family Tree Records, whose first release will be the debut of Denver band Bad Weather California (currently Akron/Family's opening act).

In other words, Akron/Family will mark its 10th anniversary by doing the same thing it's always



Akron/Family members Seth Olinsky, left, Miles Seaton, center, and Dana Janssen.

fresh for the band members.

"Everything is a little bit of an interplay between chaos and control, which allows us to have some really delicate, quiet moments that are totally focused and other moments that are loud and on the brink of falling apart," says Olinsky. "Some nights they do fall apart. Other nights they coalesce into something spontaneous and magical."

While Akron/Family thrives on the fluctuations between calm and chaos, the members have been looking for something to ground them. "In the last few years," Olinsky says, "we've been really paying attention to this idea of community in music. We've been trying to create that for ourselves."

STEPHEN M. DEUSNER

"Everything is a little bit of an interplay between chaos and control."

— SETH OLINSKY, SINGER/MULTI-INSTRUMENTALIST IN AKRON/FAMILY

done: mixing the old with the new. Over the past decade, the band's members have explored psych rock, power pop, oddball folk — seemingly every whim that crosses their collective mind.

"Everything is free game, whoever brings it to the table," says Olinsky. "We'll try almost anything. That has kept us fairly open to change." That also keeps the music

• *Rock and Roll Hotel, 1353 H St. NE; Fri., 8 p.m., \$12-\$14; 202-388-7625, Rockandrollhoteldc.com.*

WeekendPass | entertainment

film riffs



PARAMOUNT PICTURES

What the Devil?

"THE DEVIL INSIDE," out Friday, follows a woman trying to figure out whether her mom has been possessed by Satan or is merely suffering from the world's worst case of PMS. It wouldn't be the first time the Prince of Darkness has popped up on film. K.P.K.

1 "The Devil's Advocate"

Al Pacino's 1997 performance as a lawyer named John Milton is hammy. You expected Lucifer to be subtle?

2 "South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut"

Trapped in an emotionally abusive relationship with Saddam Hussein (and this was 1999, before Hussein was dead), Satan longs to escape Hell. He sings a song about it. It's surprisingly sweet.

3 "The Passion of the Christ"

Rosalinda Celentano plays the ultimate tempter in Mel Gibson's 2004 bloody depiction of Christ's final hours; her silent, piercing performance is so freaky we'd prefer the traditional cloven hooves and spiky horns.

4 "Damn Yankees"

Ray Walston's Mr. Applegate shows up to help the hapless Washington Senators in this 1958 musical. Not that we're suggesting contacting him to help the Nats. That would be wrong. Even if it did involve a nifty soft-shoe.

5 "The Witches of Eastwick"

In this 1987 film, Jack Nicholson plays Daryl Van Horne, pursuer of witches Cher, Susan Sarandon and Michelle Pfeiffer. But the ideal man turns out to be more evil than perfect.

Character Development

Director Dee Rees brings the ups and downs of life as a gay teen to the big screen

Screen

Writer-director Dee Rees insists her first feature, "Pariah," isn't a coming-out story. The film, which focuses on Brooklyn teenager Alike (Adepero Oduye), "is more of a coming-into than a coming-out," Rees says. "With Alike, she knows that she loves women. That's never a question — the question is how to be that, how to love."

Alike navigates a minefield of people who offer suggestions on how to be. Her friend Laura (Pernell Walker) tells her that being a lesbian means being as masculine as possible. Her mother, Audrey (Kim Wayans), would prefer that Alike wear pink sweaters and pearl earrings — and not be gay.

"[Alike] is constantly asked to check a box," Rees says. "And she says, 'Yeah, I'm a lesbian,' but then there are 20 more boxes that ask 'OK, what does that mean?'" Those are the questions Alike addresses throughout the film.

Though "Pariah," which opens locally on Friday, is Alike's story, the characters who surround her have a surprising amount of depth — a deliberate choice on Rees' part. "I really wanted to make sure all the



FOCUS FEATURES

In the new indie film "Pariah," Adepero Oduye plays Alike, above left, a Brooklyn teenager coming to terms with her sexuality—and what that means to her family and friends.

"With Alike, she knows that she loves women. That's never a question — the question is how to be that, how to love."

— DEE REES, DIRECTOR OF "PARIAH," WHICH FOLLOWS A GAY TEEN NAMED ALIKE.

characters had their own lives," Rees says. "No one is a supporting character in someone else's life — everyone is the star of their own life." To ensure that every character got the "star treatment," Rees wrote a stream-of-consciousness monologue telling "Pariah's" story from every character's point of view. "I took that exercise and went back to

the script and rewrote scenes so the characters would feel three-dimensional. They're not just there to serve or hinder the lead character."

That's not to say the film has multiple story lines; it's still Alike's journey, and the other characters' stories (her father might be having an affair; Laura apparently lives with her sister because her mother kicked

her out) don't get equal attention. "I didn't want to go off into too many tangents," Rees says. "It was enough to suggest it; it was enough to feel it. And, actually, because in this family — where there are secrets, where there's this passive-aggressive tension — sometimes I think it's more powerful not to say it. I think the audience is smart, and they get it."

KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY (EXPRESS)

● Landmark E Street Cinema, 555 11th St. NW; opens Friday, \$8-\$11; 202-452-7672, Landmarktheatres.com. (Metro Center)

indies & arties



Toru (Ken'ichi Matsuyama), left, and Naoko (Rinko Kikuchi) are young lovers in this adaptation of "Norwegian Wood."

SODA PICTURES

WRITTEN BY EXPRESS' KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY

I Once Had a Girl

It's hard enough to manage a relationship without global upheaval threatening your Friday night dates. In "Norwegian Wood," opening Friday at the West End Cinema, Toru is trying to balance his political ideals with his craving for the stability of the past — symbolized by his first love, Naoko. Then he meets Midori, who symbolizes everything he wants to be in a world that he can sense is just on the horizon. Based on the best-selling novel by Haruki Murakami, "Norwegian Wood" features Rinko Kikuchi (who was nominated for an Oscar for "Babel") as Naoko and was directed by Tran Anh Hung, who received an Oscar nomination for "The Scent of Green Papaya." The score is by Radiohead guitarist Jonny Greenwood, who did the music for "There Will Be Blood," so this film has an international dream team united to tell a universal story. ► West End Cinema, 2301 M St. NW; opening Fri., \$8-\$11; 202-419-3456, Westendcinema.com. (Foggy Bottom)

**1****Love Me Tenderized**

Elvis was born on Jan. 8, 1935. Would a man who, according to legend, fancied peanut butter-banana-bacon sandwiches be offended by a burlesque mock boxing match held in his honor? Ask him yourself at Elvis' Birthday Fight Club, hosted by a man who may or may not be the real thing and femme-cee Kittie Glitter, above. → *Warehouse Theatre, 1021 7th St. NW; Sat., 8 & 11 p.m., \$16 in advance or \$20 day-of; 202-321-2878, Fightclubshow.com (Mt. Vernon Square) and Creative Alliance at the Patterson, 3134 Eastern Ave., Baltimore; Jan. 14, 8 p.m., \$16; 410-276-1651, Creativealliance.org.*

2**Also, No Silly Songs About Math**

Reasons Bach 2 Rock Music School is not the movie "School of Rock": no deception for the sake of plot, no prep school uniforms, no Jack Black. Just a bunch of kids learning about the joys of music through jam sessions, battles of the bands and concerts like the one this weekend. → *9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; Sat., 11 a.m., \$5; 202-265-0930, 930.com. (U St.-Cardozo)*

**3 Rebirth Of a Nation**

When a book's title takes up roughly one fourth of an item about a reading of said book, you know it's heavy. Thomas Frank's "Pity the Billionaire: The Hard-Times Swindle and the Unlikely Comeback of the Right" is about how the crap economy fueled the tea party movement and the resurgence of conservatism. → *Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Ave. NW; Fri., 7 p.m., free; 202-364-1919, Politics-prose.com. (Van Ness)*

5**A Beautiful Hornin'**

New Orleans is justifiably renowned for its brass bands — parades, jazz funerals, it's all part of the Big Easy mystique. Stooges Brass Band is one of the most famous. It's been featured in documentaries and won competitions, and now it's at the Kennedy Center showcasing a mix of classic brass band music and a more modern hip-hop feel. Did we mention there's a sousaphone? (That's what that thing is at left.) → *Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Thu., 6 p.m., free; 202-467-4600, Kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom)*

**top stops**

WEEKEND

The Hills Are Still Alive

"The Sound of Music" is already old-fashioned, joyous if a little bit formal in its musical structures. Useless trivia: "Edelweiss," written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, is sometimes mistaken for a traditional folk song, or even Austria's national anthem. Olney's production, starring Jessica Lauren Ball, right, as Maria, keeps the Old-World charm intact. → *Olney Theatre Center, 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney, Md.; through Jan. 22, \$26-\$54; 301-924-4485, Olneytheatre.org.*

4**►sound**

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THURSDAY

Black Cat: Grey March, Dot Dash, History Repeated, 8 p.m., \$12.

Black Rock Center for the Arts: "Above/Below."

Blues Alley: Mose Allison, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., \$25.

DC9: Orgone, the 8 Ohms Band, 9 p.m., \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door.

Iota: Jason and the Scorchers, 8:30 p.m., \$20.

Jammin' Java: Covered with Jam, On the Bus, the Rob Horneff Enterprise, the Billy Triplett Trio, DJ Root Boi, 8 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door.

Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage: Stooges Brass Band, 6 p.m., free.

Music Center at Strathmore: Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m., \$28-\$88.

Rams Head Tavern: Jordan Page, 8 p.m., \$15.

Red Palace: "The Rockabilly Revelry Tribute to the King," 9 p.m., \$10.

U Street Music Hall: "Dub Nation DC Vol. 18," 9 p.m., \$12.

Velvet Lounge: The Fielding Mellish, Cerebral Assassins, Threat Level Midnight, 9 p.m., \$8-\$10.

FRIDAY

Birchmere: Pat McGee Band, Sold out.

Black Cat: "The Workers' Party," 9 p.m., \$5; DJ Beta-G, 9:30 p.m., \$7.

Bohemian Caverns: Tedd Baker, 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., \$15.

DC9: "Liberation Dance Party," 9 p.m., \$7.

Iota: The Walkaways, the Reserves, Orchard Wall, 9 p.m., \$12.

Jammin' Java: The Michael Clem Trio, Ted Garber, 8 p.m., \$15.

Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage: Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino band, 6 p.m., free.

Rams Head Tavern: Jesse Cook, 8 p.m., \$40.

Red Palace: DJ the Metaphysical, 10 p.m., free; Gilded Lily Burlesque, 10 p.m., \$10.

Rock & Roll Hotel: "Villains," 9:30 p.m., free; Akron/Family, Bad Weather California, 8 p.m., \$12 in advance, \$14 at the door.

Twins Jazz: Anderson Twins, 9 p.m. and Continued on page E10

WeekendPass | goingoutguide.com

An Apple a Day Makes the Marijuana OK



KEVIN NEALON

DUALITY: Kevin Nealon is most recognizable these days as pot-loving Doug on Showtime's "Weeds," but the stand-up veteran has been hitting comedy clubs hard lately, and this weekend is no exception, with seven shows at the DC Improv.

Continued from page E9

11 p.m., \$15.

U Street Music Hall: Forquarters Collective, Sam "The Man" Burns, Juan Zapata, \$5, free before 11 p.m. for age 21 and older.

Velvet Lounge: Once Okay Twice, Ghost Ship, Glitterlust, 10 p.m., \$8.

SATURDAY

9:30 Club: "Bach2Rock," 11 a.m., \$5; Crash Boom Bang, Elim, Typefighter, Val Yumm, DJ Natty Rico, 8 p.m., \$15.

Black Cat: King Face, Rustbuckit, 9 p.m., \$15; Moon/Bounce Dancing Affair, 9:30 p.m., \$5.

DC9: "The Singles Club," 9 p.m., \$5, free

before 10:30 p.m.

Jammin' Java: Bandits & Beggars, Tom Lohrmann, Marshall Cunningham, 6 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door; Feed God Cabbage, Dub City Renegades, Carry the One, 10 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door.

Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage: Asian American Music Society concert, 6 p.m., free.

Kennedy Center/Terrace Theater: Pianist Orion Weiss, 2 p.m., \$38.

Music Center at Strathmore: Cellist Zuill Bailey, 3:30 p.m., \$25-\$45; National Philharmonic, 8 p.m., \$32-\$79.

Rams Head Tavern: Johnny Winter Band, J.P. Soars, 8 p.m., 7 p.m., \$45.

Red Palace: "Edit," 10 p.m., free; Bike Trip, Cathedral Spires, 9 p.m., \$8.

Rock & Roll Hotel: "Pop Off," 9:30 p.m., free; Dance for the Dying, Hiding Places, Chappo, the Velvet Ants, 9 p.m., \$10.

State Theatre: DecembeRadio, Melodime, hizNeway, 8 p.m., \$15.

U Street Music Hall: Kleavage: DJs Klever and Tittsworth, 10 p.m., \$10.

Velvet Lounge: The Doozies, Sad Bones, Gold Spur, 10 p.m., \$8.

SUNDAY

Birchmere: Eric Johnson, \$35.

Black Cat: Kill all Redneck Pricks: A Documentary Film About a Band Called KARP," 8 p.m., \$6.

venues

→ **9:30 CLUB:** 815 V ST. NW; 202-265-0930, 930.COM.

→ **BIRCHMERE:** 3701 MOUNT VERNON AVE., ALEXANDRIA; 703-549-7500, BIRCHMERE.COM.

→ **BLACK CAT:** 1811 14TH ST. NW; 202-667-7960, BLACKCATDC.COM.

→ **BLUES ALLEY:** 1073 WISCONSIN AVE. NW; 202-337-4141, BLUESALLEY.COM.

→ **BOHEMIAN CAVERNS:** 2003 11TH ST. NW; 202-299-0800, BOHEMIANCAVERNS.COM.

→ **COMET PING PONG:** 5037 CONNECTICUT AVE. NW; 202-364-0404, COMETPINGPONG.COM.

→ **DAR CONSTITUTION HALL:** 18TH AND C STREETS NW; 202-628-4780, DAR.ORG/CONTHALL.

→ **DC9:** 1940 NINTH ST. NW; 202-483-5000, DCNINE.COM.

→ **GALAXY HUT:** 2711 WILSON BLVD., ARLINGTON; 703-525-8646, MYSPACE.COM/GALAXYHUT.

→ **GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY:** PATRIOT CENTER: 4500 PATRIOT CIRCLE, FAIRFAX; 202-397-7328, 703-993-3000, PATRIOTCENTER.COM.

→ **GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:** LISNER AUDITORIUM: 730 21ST ST. NW; 202-994-6800, LISNER.ORG.

→ **IOTA CLUB & CAFE:** 2832 WILSON BLVD., ARLINGTON; 703-522-8340, IOTACLUBANDCAFE.COM.

→ **JAMMIN' JAVA:** 227 MAPLE AVE. E., VIENNA; 703-255-1566, JAMMINJAVA.COM.

→ **JAXX:** 6355 ROLLING ROAD, SPRINGFIELD, VA.; 703-569-5940, JAXXROXX.COM.

→ **KENNEDY CENTER:** 2700 F ST. NW; 202-467-4600, 800-444-1324, KENNEDY-CENTER.ORG.

→ **MUSIC CENTER AT STRATHMORE:**

→ **MORE:** 5301 TUCKERMAN LANE, NORTH BETHESDA; 301-581-5100, STRATHMORE.ORG.

→ **RAMS HEAD TAVERN:** 33 WEST ST., ANNAPOLIS, MD.; 410-268-4545, RAMSHEADTAVERN.COM.

→ **RED PALACE:** 1212 H ST. NE; 202-399-3201, REDPALACEDC.COM.

→ **ROCK & ROLL HOTEL:** 1353 H ST. NE; 202-388-7625, ROCKANDROLLHOTELDC.COM.

→ **STATE THEATRE:** 220 N. WASHINGTON ST., FALLS CHURCH; 703-237-0300, THESTATETHEATRE.COM.

→ **TWINS JAZZ:** 1344 U ST. NW; 202-234-0072, TWINSJAZZ.COM.

→ **U STREET MUSIC HALL:** 1115 U ST. NW; 202-588-1880, USTREETMUSICHALL.COM.

→ **VELVET LOUNGE:** 915 U ST. NW; 202-462-3213, VELVETLOUNGEDC.COM.

→ **WARNER THEATRE:** 13TH AND E STREETS NW; 202-783-4000.

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Join Together With the Band



PAT MCGEE

REUNION ALERT: Pat McGee, above, is getting the band back together — the Pat McGee Band, that is. The local favorite from Richmond will reunite with the singer/songwriter, who's been going it solo the past few years, with two shows at the Birchmere this weekend. Expect fan favorites and selections from McGee's latest album, "No Wrong Way to Make It Right."

Galaxy Hut: Grand Candy, Don Zientara, 9 p.m., \$5.

Iota: Iota Poetry Series, 6 p.m., free; Jonny Grave and the Tombstones, 8:30 p.m., \$10.

Jammin' Java: Fight Cloud, Sub-Radio Standard, 1 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door; Katura, Shaun Daknis, the Only, the Rebuilt Machine, All in Karma, 6 p.m., \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door.

Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage: Classical violin and piano concert, 6 p.m., free.

MONDAY

Black Cat: "The Fellowship of the Ring," 8 p.m., free.

Blues Alley: The Vocal Workshop Graduation Concert, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., \$10.

Bohemian Caverns: Bohemian Caverns Jazz Orchestra, 8 p.m., \$7.

DC9: Justin Jones, 9 p.m., free.

Galaxy Hut: Cane and the Sticks, Alarms and Controls, 9 p.m., \$5.

Iota: Polina Kourakina, Cole Mangialardi, 8:30 p.m., \$12.

Jammin' Java: "Jammin Java's Mid-Atlantic Band Battle 6," 7:30 p.m., \$10.

Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage: Music from Argentina, 6 p.m., free.

TUESDAY

Black Cat: "Can't Hardly Wait," "Clueless," 8 p.m., free.

Blues Alley: Tanya Blount, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., \$25.

Iota: Drew Gibson, Wes Tucker, 8:30 p.m., \$10.

Kennedy Center/Millennium Stage: Jazz concert, 6 p.m., free.

Rams Head Tavern: "The Music of ABBA," \$39.50.

Twins Jazz: Lyle Link with Marty Nau, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., \$10.

U Street Music Hall: Buraka Som Sistema, 7 p.m., \$15.

Velvet Lounge: Bobbie Allen, Alex Miller, Shanna Hoar, 8:30 p.m., \$8.

sight

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American Painting: "Small Treasures," small scale works by Artists of the Washington Society of Landscape Painters, gallery artists and guest artists, through Jan. 28. 5118 MacArthur Blvd. NW; 202-244-3244.

Art Museum of the Americas:

"Traveling Light: 5 Chilean Artists And Common Place," site-specific art installations by Catalina Bauer, Rodrigo Canala, Rodrigo Galecio, Gerardo Pulido and Tomas Rivas that focus on contemporary art and its interconnection with politics, through Jan. 22. 201 18th St. NW; 202-458-6016. Museum.oas.org.

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: "Family

Matters: Portraits From the Qing Court," portraits, jewelry and other objects from the imperial family that shaped the Qing Dynasty from the early to mid-18th century, through Jan. 16. "Powerplay: China's Empress Dowager," Chinese dynastic tradition meets modern photographic techniques and aesthetics in this series of photographs capturing the Grand Empress Dowager Cixi, through Jan. 29. 1050 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-1000. Asia.si.edu.

LAST CHANCE Artisphere: "At Home in Virginia," items handmade by Virginia artisans show how art can become more than something to look at, through Sun. "Robert Hoffmann: The Largest Collection of Handcrafted Harmonica Cases in the World," harmonica cases created by Robert "Hoff" Hoffmann with

Continued on page E12

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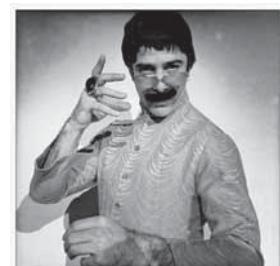
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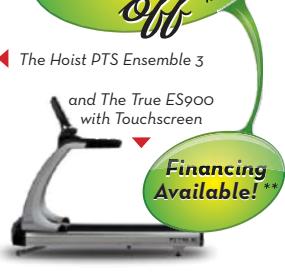
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Continued from page E11

help from many artists across the country will be on display, through Jan. 28. "Beauty Pill's the Immersive Ideal," this interactive exhibit allows you to listen to the latest album by local band Beauty Pill while viewing an interactive array of photos taken while they wrote and recorded the album in Artisphere, opening Sat., through Jan. 22. 1101 Wil-

son Blvd., Arlington; 703-875-1100, Artisphere.com.

Athenaeum: Into the Light, a striking display of two artistic mediums, featuring ceramicist Victoria Shaheen's installation compromised of life-size light bulb clusters that play with light and shadow, and photographer Esther Yi's mordancé-processed silver gelatin prints, that imbue classical fine art

images with a degraded, peeling appearance, through Jan. 22. 201 Prince St., Alexandria; 703-548-0035. Nyfaa.org.

BlackRock Center for the Arts:
"Above/Below," works by Beverly Ryan,
Alison Sigethy, Marsha Staiger and
Karen Reedy Dance, through Jan. 28.
12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown,
Md.; 301-528-2260, Blackrock-
center.org.

Capitol Hill Arts Workshop: Contemporary Photography exhibit, juried by Bruce McKaig, opening Sat., through Feb. 2. 545 Seventh St. SE; 202-547-

6839, Chaw.org.
Carroll Square Gallery: "Artwork by Tracy's Kids," drawings, paintings and sculpture created by participants in Tracy's Kids, a program that helps children with cancer and their families, through

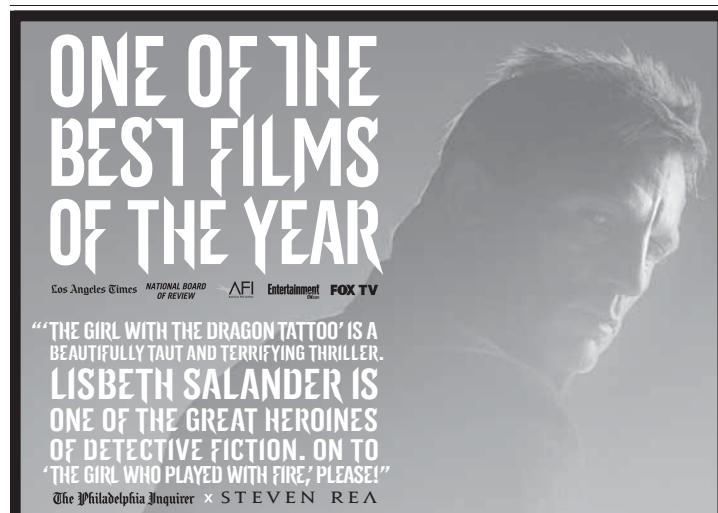
Jan. 13, 975 F St. NW; 202-624-8643.

Corcoran Gallery of Art: For their first exhibition in the United States, Australian artists Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro will explore the aspiration of space travel with the necessity of food consumption. Working with statistics related to food, beverages, and household goods, the artistic duo propose to physically illustrate what an astronaut — consuming only the goods of the “everyman” — would require on a journey to Mars. At the conclusion of the exhibition, the contents of the display will be given away, creating an event to highlight existing cycles of production, consumption and distribution, through March 11. “30 Americans,” a survey of work by African-American artists from the past 30 years, through Feb. 12. “Claire Healy and Sean Cordeiro: Are We There Yet?,” the Australian artists show how much food, calculated with statistics, it would take for an astronaut to remain well-fed during a journey to Mars, through March 11. “Strange Fruit,” an exploration of African-American identity through photographs and video works by Hank Willis Thomas, through Jan. 16. “The Exceptional Everyday: Design Post-Process,” dynamic work by 12 contemporary Norwegian designers, through Jan. 22. 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700, Corcoran.org.

Folger Shakespeare Library: "Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible," this exhibit explores the translation and influence of the King James Bible, through Jan. 15. Ongoing exhibits: a collection of Shakespeare materials and other rare Renaissance books, manuscripts and works of art, 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-4600. Folger.edu.

Foundry Gallery: "A Natural Progression," oil paintings by Edward Bear Miller, through Jan. 29. 1314 18th St. NW; 202-463-0203.

Freer Gallery of Art: "Arts of Japan," springtime cherry blossoms and cherry maples are only a small sample of how the seasons influence Japanese art, through March 4. "Chinese Flowers," part of the museum's ongoing "Seasons" exhibition, view paintings of Chinese flora specific to each quarter of the calendar, through Sun. "Japanese Screens," part of the museum's ongoing "Seasons" exhibition, a rotating set of screens painted to match different times of year, through Jan. 22. "Sweet



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goingoutguide.com | Weekend Pass

Pretty in Pink



AOIFE COLLINS

DESTRUCTIVE CONSTRUCTING: Irish artist Aoife Collins is the subject of Flashpoint Gallery's exhibition "Tickling the Ivories." Collins specializes in breaking down ready-made objects and reconstructing them to comment on their function and form. The above, "Hanged Man Aceras anthropophora," was made by pulling apart artificial flowers, thread by thread.

Silent Thought: Whistler's Interiors, a look at the recurring themes of reading, music, reverie and studio practice in the works of James McNeill Whistler, through July 1. "Tea," from stone-ware to porcelain, tea utensils demonstrate the changing of the seasons, through March 4. Jefferson Drive and 12th Street SW; 202-633-1000, [Asia.si.edu](#).

Gallery 555: "Tis the Season," works by Laurie Breen, Daniel Calder, Julie Girardini, Jodi, Ron Loyd, Georgia Nassikas, Novie Trump and Lisa Rosenstein, through Jan. 13. 555 12th St. NW; 202-393-1409, [Gallery555dc.com](#).

Goethe-Institut: "On the Lakeshore ... and Other Stories: Photographer Iris Janke," works by contemporary German photographer Iris Janke and two American counterparts, Sara J. Winston and Kaitlin Jencso, examine themes of self-identity, through Jan. 27. 812 Seventh St. NW; 202-289-1200, [Goethe.de/ins/us/was/enindex.htm](#).

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: "Andy Warhol: Shadows,"

more than 100 brightly colored, silk-screened canvases that portray photographs of shadows, one of the artist's more grandiose pieces of artistic criticism. Hung side by side, the paintings measure 450 linear feet and are meant to both suggest and mock the bold strokes of the abstract impressionist movement, through Jan. 15. "Black Box: Ali Kazma," video installation by the Turkish artist, through April 30. "Directions: Empire 3," the exhibition examines the ongoing influence of Andy Warhol's groundbreaking film "Empire" (1964). The original work by Warhol will be displayed alongside "Bootleg (Empire)" (1997), an unauthorized videotaping of an "Empire" screening by Scottish artist Douglas Gordon, and "Empire 24/7" (1999 to 2004), a record of a live stream of still images of the Empire State Building by German Web-art pioneer Wolfgang Staehle, through Feb. 26. Seventh Street and Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, [Hirshhorn.si.edu](#).

International Arts & Artists'

Hillyer Art Space: Lucinda Murphy, the artist's works explore the unanswered questions in science, including, most recently, the perceptions of Order and Chaos, opening Fri., through Jan. 27. Monica Stroik, paintings by the artist look at the daily choices everyone faces, conscious and unconscious, opening Fri., through Jan. 27. 9 Hillyer Ct. NW; 202-338-0680, [Artsandartists.org](#).

LAST CHANCE International Visions: "Stanley Agbontaen: A Celebration of Life," paintings by Nigerian artist Stanley Agbontaen capture the country's people and daily rituals, Thu.-Sat. 2629 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-234-5112, [Inter-visions.com](#).

Mexican Cultural Institute: "Conversacion," photography by Muriel Hasbun and Pablo Ortiz Monasterio, through Feb. 4. "Maremagnum," photography by Jordi Socias, through Feb. 4. Ongoing exhibits: a collection of objects from Mexico's cultural past and present, 2829 16th St. NW; 202-728-1628, [Portal.sre.gob.mx](#).

Continued on page E15

"EASILY ONE OF THE YEAR'S BEST PICTURES!"

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Los Angeles Times

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Continued from page E13

National Academy of Sciences,

Keck Center: "Art and Science:

Highlights From the Collection of the National Academy of Sciences," a display of artwork that explores the melding of arts and sciences, by appointment only, through April 2. Ongoing exhibits: explore the relationships between the arts and science, engineering and medicine. 500 Fifth St. NW; 202-334-2436, Nationalacademies.org.

National Building Museum: "Investigating Where We Live," an exhibit of photographs and creative writing by Washington-area middle and high school students who were given four weeks to interpret three neighborhoods

in the District, through May 28. "Lego Architecture: Towering Ambition," architectural artist Adam Reed Tucker uses Lego blocks to re-create landmarks including the Empire State Building, through Sept. 3. "Unbuilt Washington," an examination of what Washington, D.C., could have looked like if some of the proposed designs for its most prominent buildings were realized, through May 28. Ongoing exhibits: learn about the history of buildings and their environmental impact, 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448, Nbm.org.

National Gallery of Art, West Building:

"A New Look: Samuel F. B. Morse's Gallery of the Louvre," an early artistic endeavor by the inventor of the

telegraph, through July 8. "Harry Callahan at 100," an exhibit of pictures explores the entire career of the world-renowned photographer who took highly experimental photos, through March 4. "Text as Inspiration: Artists' Books and Literature," fourteen books of poetry and prose that artists have enhanced with visuals inspired by the text. Some are made by artist-bookmakers; others are titles by familiar authors who tapped certain artists to add artwork such as prints, drawings and paper sculpture, through Jan. 29. Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-737-4215, Nga.gov.

LAST CHANCE National Museum of African Art: "Artists in Dialogue:

Sandile Zulu and Henrique Oliveira," two artists react to each other's work, resulting in site-specific, original creations, through Sun. "Central Nigeria Unmasked: Arts of the Benue River Valley," this collection of more than 150 sculptures includes statues, helmet masks and maternal images created by residents of sub-Saharan Africa, through March 4. 950 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-4600, Africa.si.edu.

National Museum of American History:

"Jefferson's Bible: The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth," Thomas Jefferson's document from the early 19th century aimed to present a chronological version of Jesus' life, omitting anything that appeared "con-

trary to reason," through May 28. 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, Americanhistory.si.edu.

National Museum of Natural History:

"More Than Meets the Eye," a look at the tools, skills and technologies used by the museum's scientists to explore the diversity in life-forms and cultures, through Nov. 4, 2012. "The Evolving Universe," see images of space taken through telescopes and explore the time between the creation of the universe to present day on Earth; "The Beautiful Time: Photography by Sammy Baloji," Congolese photographer and videographer Sammy Baloji explores the meaning of memory in an exhibit of

Continued on page E18

Local movie times

DISTRICT

AMC Loews Georgetown 14

3111 K Street N.W. www.AMCTheatres.com

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Digital Presentation: (I) 1:20
Hugo (3D) Reel3D: 12:50-3:45
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1 (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 4:15
New Year's Eve (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 6:50-9:40
We Bought a Zoo (PG) Digital Presentation: 7:00-10:20
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (I) 7:05-10:10
Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (PG-13) IMAX: 12:55-4:07-15-10:30
The Adventures of Tintin (3D) (PG) Reel3D: (I) 4:10-10:20
The Descendants (R) AMC INDEPENDENT: 1:45-4:40-7:40-10:25
The Artist (PG-13) AMC INDEPENDENT/Digital Presentation: 1:50-4:30-7:30-10:00
The Devil Inside (R) Digital Presentation: (I) 9:00-11:15
J. Edgar (R) Digital Presentation: 1:05
Young Adult (R) 2:30-5:00-7:50-10:15
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) (I) 3:30-7:10-10:35
The Descendants (R) AMC INDEPENDENT/Closed Captions: 1:45-4:40-7:40-10:25
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) Digital Presentation: 2:00-5:35
Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 2:10-5:15-8:20
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) (I) 1:40-3:50-6:30-9:00
War Horse (PG-13) 12:40-4:05-7:25-10:35
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 5:10-8:15
The Muppets (PG) 1:55

AMC Loews Uptown 1

3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W. www.AMCTheatres.com

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 2:00-5:15-8:30
AMC Mazza Gallerie
5300 Wisconsin Ave. NW www.AMCTheatres.com
The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Digital Presentation: 4:50-10:20
We Bought a Zoo (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video: 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:10
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) Club Cinema-Over 21 after 6:00 pm/Digital Presentation: 5:30 pm/Digital Presentation: (I) 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
The Darkest Hour (PG-13) Club Cinema-Over 21 after 6:00 pm/Digital Presentation: 5:30
The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Real3D: 2:10-7:40
The Devil Inside (R) Club Cinema-Over 21 after 6:00 pm/Digital Presentation: 9:00
Hugo (PG) Digital Presentation: 1:10-6:50
The Darkest Hour 3D (PG-13) Club Cinema-Over 21 after 6:00 pm/Real3D: 3:00
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) (I) 3:40-7:10-10:40
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) (I) 2:20-4:40-10:00
The Muppets (PG) (I) 4:00-9:40

Avalon

5612 Connecticut Avenue www.theavalon.org

Le Have (NR) 10:45-12:45-5:45
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 1:15-4:45-8:15
The Man Nobody Knew: In Search of My Father CIA Spymaster William Colby (NR) 10:30-8:00
The Way (PG-13) 3:00

Landmark E Street Cinema
555 11th Street NW www.landmarktheatres.com

The Descendants (R) 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:40
The Artist (PG-13) 2:00-2:45-4:30-5:15-7:00-9:30
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (R) 2:30-3:30-5:30-6:30-7:30-8:30-9:15
My Week with Marilyn (R) 2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50
A Dangerous Method (R) 2:35-5:05
Shame (NC-17) 2:40-9:50

Lincoln Theatre

1215 U Street NW www.thelincolntheatre.org

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) (I) 1:00-4:00-7:30
Regal Gallery Place Stadium 14
707 Seventh Street NW www.regalcinemas.com

Hugo 3D (PG) Reel3D: (I) 1:10
We Bought a Zoo (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 4:00-10:15
The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Real3D: (I) 2:45-5:10-7:45-10:15
Young Adult (R) 12:45-3:10-5:30-8:10-10:40
The Darkest Hour 3D (PG-13) 12:30-2:40-5:00-7:40-10:00
The Adventures of Tintin (PG) 12:05

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 12:20-1:40-3:40-5:20-7:00-9:00-10:25
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) 12:10-2:20-4:40
The Devil Inside (R) 10:00
War Horse (PG-13) 11:50-12:40-3:00-3:50-6:10-7:10-9:20-10:20

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) 12:00

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 12:15-3:30-4:20-6:30-7:20-9:30-10:30
New Year's Eve (PG-13) 10:25
We Bought a Zoo (PG) 1:00-7:30
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 12:25-1:30-4:10-4:50-7:05-8:00-9:55-10:45
The Muppets (PG) 12:30-2:35-5:15-7:50

West End Cinema
2301 M Street NW http://westendcinema.com/

Moneyball (PG-13) Starring Brad Pitt & Jonah Hill: 2:30-7:20
The Ides of March (R) George Clooney and Ryan Gosling: 5:10-10:00
Le Havre (NR) English Subtitles: 5:30-7:40
Melancholia (R) 2:10-9:40
Hugo (PG) 1:40-4:20-7:00-9:50

MARYLAND
AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center
8633 Colesville Road www.afi.com/silver

The Artist (PG-13) NO PASSES: (I) 12:20-2:30-4:40-7:00-9:20
Shame (NC-17) NO PASSES: (I) 12:50-3:05-5:15-7:25-9:35
My Week with Marilyn (R) 2:40-4:45-6:50-9:00
The Way (PG-13) 12:15

AMC Loews Center Park 8
4001 Powder Mill Rd. www.AMCTheatres.com

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Digital Presentation: (I) 3:45
Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (I) 1:45-4:45-7:45
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Digital Presentation: 1:30-3:50-6:00-8:15
War Horse (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (I) 2:40-4:30-7:40
We Bought a Zoo (PG) Digital Presentation: (I) 2:00-5:00-7:50
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 1:30-4:20-7:30
The Darkest Hour (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (I) 3:30-8:00
The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Real3D: (I) 6:30
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) Digital Presentation: (I) 3:40-7:00
The Darkest Hour 3D (PG-13) Real3D: (I) 5:45

AMC Loews White Flint 5
11301 Rockville Pike www.AMCTheatres.com

War Horse (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 12:25-3:50-7:15
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 1:15-4:55-8:00
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) Digital Presentation: 12:40-4:05-7:30
Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 1:00-4:25-7:45
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) 1:30-4:40-7:00

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center 12
800 Shoppers Way www.AMCTheatres.com

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Digital Presentation: (I) 1:30-4:50-10:30
Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (I) 11:10-2:20-5:30-8:40
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Digital Presentation: (I) 11:00-1:15-3:45-6:20-8:45

The Sitter (R) Digital Presentation: 1:00-3:20-5:40-8:00-10:20
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (I) 12:50-4:05-7:10-10:15

Regal Majestic 20 & IMAX
900 Ellsworth Drive

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol: The IMAX Experience (PG-13) IMAX: 1:40-7:10-10:05
The Adventures of Tintin: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) IMAX 3D: (I) 2:00
The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Real3D: (I) 1:40-4:10-6:45-9:20
The Darkest Hour 3D (PG-13) Real3D: (I) 12:20-3:15-5:35-8:00-10:15

Young Adult (R) 1:05-3:30-6:20-8:40-10:55
The Descendants (R) 1:50-3:30-7:25-10:25
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 1:25-2:15-3:55-4:45-6:00-6:55-8:15-10:20

Hugo (PG) 2:05
The Adventures of Tintin (PG) 12:55
Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 2:10-3:25-5:05-6:30-8:35-9:30
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) 1:45-1:00-1:35-2:45-3:00-3:45-4:50-5:30-7:05-7:40-10:00

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1 (PG-13) 9:10
War Horse (PG-13) 12:50-2:55-4:00-6:05-7:30-9:15-10:45
New Year's Eve (PG-13) 5:10-7:50-10:30
We Bought a Zoo (PG) 12:40-3:50-6:40-9:45
The Sitter (R) 8:30-10:35
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 1:15-2:30-4:15-5:20-6:10-7:10-8:10-9:00-11:00
The Muppets (PG) 12:25-3:05-5:45

VIRGINIA
AMC Courthouse Plaza 8
2150 Clarendon Blvd. www.AMCTheatres.com

Hugo 3D (PG) Real3D: 3:20-9:20

The Muppets (PG) Digital Presentation: 4:10-6:40-9:10

The Darkest Hour (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 5:10-9:45

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Real3D: 2:00-4:30-7:00-9:40

My Week with Marilyn (R) AMC INDEPENDENT: 2:30-3:15-5:45-7:00-9:45

Hugo (PG) Digital Presentation: 6:20

The Darkest Hour 3D (PG-13) Real3D: (I) 3:00-7:30

Arthur Christmas (PG) 2:10

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) 2:40-5:20-8:00

New Year's Eve (PG-13) 4:30-7:05-9:40

We Bought a Zoo (PG) (I) 3:30-6:30-9:30

The Sitter (R) 1:30

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 3:10-4:20-6:25-7:35-9:20-10:25

The Muppets (PG) 1:10-3:45-6:45

Regal Potomac Yard 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Highway www.regalcinemas.com

We Bought a Zoo (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 4:30-10:20

The Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) Real3D: (I) 4:25-6:55-9:35

The Darkest Hour 3D (PG-13) Real3D: (I) 1:00-3:15-5:35-7:50-10:15

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 2:30-3:00-3:30-6:05-6:30-7:00-9:30-10:00-10:25

Hugo (PG) 1:05

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) 1:25-2:20-3:50-4:45-5:45-6:35

War Horse (PG-13) 1:05-3:20-4:05-6:45-7:15-9:35-10:35

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 1:25-1:25-3:50-4:20-5:10-6:50-7:30-10:30

New Year's Eve (PG-13) 7:55-10:35

We Bought a Zoo (PG) 1:45-4:35-7:30-10:15

The Sitter (R) 1:30

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 3:10-4:20-6:25-7:35-9:20-10:25

The Muppets (PG) 1:10-3:45-6:45

Weekend Pass | dining



**Winemaker Frantz Ventre
smells barrels of wine at
Sweely Estate Winery.
The business was recently
purchased by former AOL
executives Steve and Jean
Case who plan
to rename it.**

JAHN CHIKWENDU PHOTOS/TWP

America On Wine

Former AOL execs Steve and Jean Case plan to expand the Virginia vino industry

Strategy

What happens when a conservative community, hesitant to change its ways and dependent for its livelihood on the slow cycle of the seasons, meets an innovator accustomed to rapid transformations in the way people live, work and communicate?

Now that AOL co-founder Steve Case and his wife, Jean, a former AOL executive, quietly purchased Sweely Estate (6109 Wolftown-Hood Road, Madison, Va.; 540-948-9005, Sweelyestatewinery.com) in July, the Virginia wine

industry might soon find out.

Jean Case said the couple are mapping out an ambitious plan to help the Virginia wine industry expand to new markets.

"Our goal is for us and our team to be out in some markets in Virginia and building exposure for Virginia wines," said Jean Case, who lives with her husband and children in McLean, Va.

The winery, consisting of a hospitality center and a separate building where the wine is made, clearly is Jean Case's project. Her first order of business is to renovate; closed now, the estate will reopen in the spring with a new tasting room and refurbished events venues. The winery building already is state-of-the-art.

In pursuing her goals, Jean Case decided not to hire famous French



Jean Case Steve Case



Currently closed for renovations, the wine shop at Sweely Estate will reopen this spring alongside a new tasting room.

consultants, as other prominent Virginia wineries have done. "We hired Virginians!" she says proudly. Michael Shaps of Virginia Wineworks has been brought on board to help with the winemaking, and viticulturist Lucie Morton is consulting on the vineyard.

Beyond the immediate steps to renovate the tasting facility, Jean Case has one urgent problem to resolve before she begins marketing her wine or promoting the state industry: She needs a new name for the winery.

"It will definitely not be Case Wines," she says, dismissing obvious jokes like "Case Discounts" or "By the Case." Although her team members will decide on a winery name, they plan to enlist consumers to help name their first wine to be released. "All our businesses have been about building communities, and we want to apply that approach here," she says.

In talking about marketing over the longer term, Jean Case is more ambitious. She speaks of promoting her own wines and the image of Virginia wine itself. To do that, her team will select a "family" of Virgin-

ia's top wines that she hopes to sell in the winery's tasting room.

Beyond the tasting room, "we've been speaking to general managers and wine stewards in restaurants and wine bars, as well as retailers in Northern Virginia, and we're seeing a lot of interest in carrying Virginia wines," she says. "It fits in with the eat-local, drink-local movement and an interest in supporting local business."

Virginia wineries can self-distribute 3,000 cases of wine yearly to retailers and restaurants in-state. Many don't take full advantage of that sales avenue, but Jean Case says she hopes to use it to promote her wine family. Her target markets are Northern Virginia and people who haven't discovered the new quality in Virginia wine.

"I see no reason that Virginia wines shouldn't ultimately compete on the global market."

— JEAN CASE, WHO RECENTLY PURCHASED SWEELY ESTATE WINERY IN MADISON, VA., WITH HUSBAND STEVE CASE, ON HOW THE COUPLE HOPE TO HELP BOOST AWARENESS AND SALES OF VIRGINIA WINES.

But can this marketing revolution be "disruptive" enough to shake up the industry? Most Virginia wineries sell their small production entirely through their tasting rooms and at festivals, where they earn full retail profits. There is a disincentive to put their wines in the distribution system, even through self-distribution, which takes time and resources while cutting profit margins.

"We need to demonstrate that there is a market for these wines in order to give the wineries and the growers confidence to expand and grow," Jean Case says. "I see no reason that Virginia wines shouldn't ultimately compete on the global market, but we need to walk before we can run. We need more Virginians to drink Virginia wine." DAVE MCINTYRE (*THE WASHINGTON POST*)

dining | Weekend Pass



Fishnet's grilled bluefish sandwich is topped with a Turkish-inspired puree of walnuts, garlic and sumac (a tart, acidic spice).

Fishy Business

A College Park eatery stocks sandwiches fresh from the sea

First Bite

Suffering from hamburger and pizza fatigue? You're not alone. The news that Ferhat Yalcin, a longtime dining room fixture at Corduroy in Washington, was flipping fish in a spot of his own sent me racing this month to College Park and a slip of a place called Fishnet.

The Istanbul native has traded his suit and tie for a T-shirt and knit cap. The former restaurant manager is now behind a counter, where customers can scan a chalkboard menu and place their requests. Each day brings a handful of fish varieties that can be grilled or fried, then set in a roll with lettuce and tomato and a smear of a house-made sauce. The choices include fresh mahi-mahi, porgy, bluefish and



Fishnet owner Ferhat Yalcin was once the general manager at D.C.'s Corduroy.

salmon, which also makes its way into scroll-size tacos using flour tortillas. A sandwich of strong-flavored bluefish treated to a Turkish-inspired spread of pureed walnuts, garlic and sumac made me wish Fishnet was closer to home.

The last time I recall eating fish sticks was in high school. Fishnet creates happier memories by serving flaky hake in a golden crust formed

by egg wash and airy Japanese bread crumbs. The lone letdown on my visit was a thin fish soup, reminiscent of what's left behind in a pot of steamed mussels: mere broth.

Any meal is better with a side or two. The french fries are made in-house, as are the chunky coleslaw and vivid yellow potato salad.

The shop's minimalist decor lets you focus on the food. Aside from a collection of photographs of Istanbul and some fishnets on the walls, there's not much to look at, although I like the music Yalcin pipes in from a Turkish radio station. The self-service restaurant offers Wi-Fi access; the password is "mackerel."

Fishnet was not Yalcin's first idea. "I wanted to do a burger place," he says. "But Michael Landrum" — the impresario behind the meaty Ray's empire — "beat me to it."

TOM SIETSEMA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

• 5010 Berwyn Road, College Park, Md.; 301-220-1070, Eatfishnet.com.



Dine & Dash: On Jan. 21, the Neighborhood Restaurant Group's beer director, Greg Engert, left, will introduce the Beer Academy at Rustico (4075 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 571-384-1820, Rusticorestaurant.com). During the inaugural tutorial (1-3 p.m., \$24) titled "Tasting Craft Beer," Engert will share his seven flavor profiles. Never wonder whether you're a "fruit and spice" or "tart and funky" kind of person again. Subsequent sessions will occur every four weeks through June 9.

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Continued from page E15

collages and photographs of the copper mine industry in the Democratic Republic of Congo before and after independence. 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, Mnhs.si.edu.

National Museum of the American Indian

"A Song for the Horse Nation," explore the relationship between Native Americans and their horses in this exhibit, which will include a life-size mannequin of a horse in full beaded regalia, rifles and a Sioux tepee; "Indivisible: African-Native American Lives in the Americas," an exhibit that looks at the lives of people with African-American and Native American heritages, through Feb. 2. Fourth Street and Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-1000, Nmai.si.edu.

National Museum of Women in the Arts

"Trove: The Collection In Depth," more than 100 pieces show the

breadth of the collection the museum has assembled over a quarter-century, through Jan. 15. "Visions of the Orient: Western Women Artists in Asia 1900-1940," prints and paintings by Western female artists exploring Asian cultures in the early 20th century, through Jan. 15. Ongoing exhibits: artworks by renowned female artists. 1250 New York Ave. NW; 202-783-5000, Nmwa.org.

LAST CHANCE National Portrait Gallery

"Glimpse of the Past: A Neighborhood Evolves," a photographic exploration of the neighborhood surrounding the Patent Office Building, one of the oldest federal buildings in Washington, through Sun. "Mementos: Painted and Photographic Miniatures, 1750-1920," an exhibit of portrait miniatures that were often made as love tokens or keepsakes, through May 13. "One Life: Ronald Reagan," an exhibition celebrating the 40th president's 100th birthday,

through May 28. "Portraiture Now: Asian American Portraits of Encounter," portraits by seven Asian American artists that capture the complexities of being Asian in America, through Oct. 14. "Seeing Gertrude Stein: Five Stories," the life of Gertrude Stein is chronicled by more than 100 works and 50 artifacts reflecting Stein's career, through Jan. 22. "The Black List," photographs by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders explore the careers and lives of preeminent African-Americans, through April 22. "The Death of Ellsworth," the first of four yearly alcove exhibitions at the National Portrait Gallery recounts the death of the first Union officer killed in the Civil War, through May 18. John F. Kennedy portraits, several portraits of John F. Kennedy are on display to commemorate the 50th anniversary of his inauguration. Included are four photographs and one painting, through Sun. Eighth and F

streets NW; 202-633-1000, Npg.si.edu.

Newseum: "Photo Finish: The Sports Photography of Neil Leifer," moments captured by sports photographer Neil Leifer, including Muhammad Ali's victory over Sonny Liston, will be on display, through March 18. 555 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 888-639-7386, Newseum.org.

LAST CHANCE Phillips Collection:

"Degas's Dancers at the Barre: Point and Counterpoint," paintings of dancers by Edgar Degas show his fascination with ballet, through Sun. "Eye to Eye: Joseph Marioni at the Phillips," a collection of monochrome paintings, selected by the artist, will be on display, through Jan. 29. "Will Ryman's 'The Roses,'" fiber-glass and stainless steel statues of rose blooms are placed on the museum's lawn. The structures transform in the changing light of the colder seasons, through Thu. 1600 21st St. NW; 202-387-2151, Phillipscollection.org.

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Photo of Ensemble by Chris Miller

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ANDY UNGER

GROUP ON: Rockville artist Andy Unger's "Over There Whenever," above, is one of the pieces on display as part of Bethesda Gallery B's group show, featuring works by local artists including Frank Cappello, Emily Lane and Donna K. McGee.

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Renwick Gallery: "Something of Splendor: Decorative Arts From the White House," a collection of pieces, including furniture, ceramics, glass and textiles, shows the history of the White House's decor, through May 6. 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, americanart.si.edu.

Smithsonian American Art Museum:

"Inventing a Better Mouse-trap: Patent Models From the Rothschild Collection," models of mousetraps show the different patents inventors submitted during the 19th century; "Multiplicity," contemporary artists show how repeated images are important to the process of printmaking, through March 11. "The Great Hall of American Wonders," more than 160 objects, including paintings and drawings by John James Audubon and Winslow Homer, as well as botanical illustrations, patent models and engineering diagrams that capture America at its most aspirational and imaginative, through Sun. Eighth and F streets NW; 202-633-1000, americanart.si.edu.

Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum: "Artuare," works by artist Steven Cummings look at how images shape our ideas of who we are, through March 18. "Conversations in the Contemporary," an exhibit of works by Creative Junkfood, through April 29. Artuare exhibit tour, artist Steven M. Cummings is giving viewers of his installation "Artuare" the opportunity to gain more insight into his work when he hosts a tour and discussion. Reserve a spot by calling 202-633-4844, Sat. at 10:30 a.m. 1901 Fort Place SE; 202-633-4820, anacostia.si.edu.

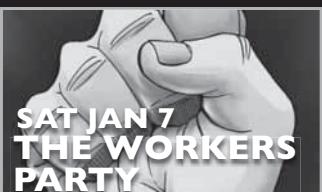
LAST CHANCE Textile Museum: "Second Lives: The Age-Old Art of Recycling Textiles," examples of how various cultures reuse fabric, including a vest made from a blanket and a large

Continued on page E20

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Continued from page E19

patchwork of small scraps of silk ikat, through Sun. "Weaving Abstraction: Kuba Textiles and the Woven Art of Central Africa," a collection of 50 19th- and 20th-century objects, including ceremonial skirts, tribute clothes, head-dresses and basketry, through Feb. 12. 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441, Textile-museum.org.

Billy Elliot the Musical: After a failed attempt at boxing, a boy follows his dream of becoming a dancer, through Jan. 15, \$25-\$150. Kennedy Center, Opera House, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600. 800-444-1324, Kennedy-center.org.

Torpedo Factory Art Center/The Art League: "Solo Preview 2012,"

an exhibit of works by artists who are scheduled to have solo shows in 2012, through Jan. 27. The Art League, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria; 703-683-1780, Theartleague.org.

Touchstone: "Into the Wild," paintings by Paula Lantz inspired by the artist's trip to Botswana, South Africa and Zambia, through Jan. 29. 901 New York Ave. NW; 202-347-2787, Touchstonegallery.com.

LAST CHANCE Zenith Gallery: "Shining Stars," an exhibit of sculpture and mixed-media works by Julie Girardini, Joan Konkel, David Hubbard, Barton Rubenstein and Paul Martin Wolff, Thu.-Sat. 1111 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-783-2963.

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opens Sat., \$20, \$15 for McLean tax district residents. McLean Community Center, Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, Va.; 703-790-0123, Alden-theatre.org.

Amelia: Washington Stage Guild mounts the Civil War odyssey that follows a couple divided by battles raging from Pennsylvania to Georgia, through Jan. 29, \$40-\$50, \$30-\$40 seniors, \$20-\$25 students. Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church, 900 Massachusetts Ave. NW; 202-347-9620.

Ann: Ann Richards served as the 45th governor of Texas, the second female to hold the state's highest office. But Richards was more than just a politician: She was a political character, someone as comfortable giving a policy speech as

cracking one-liners. Holland Taylor (who plays Evelyn Harper on "Two and a Half Men") inhabits the late Richards' colorful persona in a one-woman biographical play, beginning Saturday at 7:30 p.m., through Jan. 15, \$54-\$95. Kennedy Center, Eisenhower Theater, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600. 800-444-1324, Kennedy-center.org.

Darius the Dragon & Rap-Punzel: opens Fri. through Jan. 15, \$12, \$10 children, students and seniors. Spectrum Theatre at Artisphere, 1611 N. Kent St., Arlington; 703-228-1150, Artisphere.com.

LAST CHANCE Dr. Dolittle: A soldier during World War I writes letters to his son describing a doctor who can talk to animals and makes peace among warring animals in Africa, through Sun., \$10-\$22. Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; 301-280-1660, Imagination-stage.org.

LAST CHANCE Elvis Returns!: Jed Duvall portrays the "King of Rock 'n' Roll" as he was in the '50s, '60s and '70s, opens Fri. through Sat., \$15. Laurel Mill Playhouse, 508 Main St., Laurel, Md.; 301-452-2557, Laurelmillplayhouse.org.

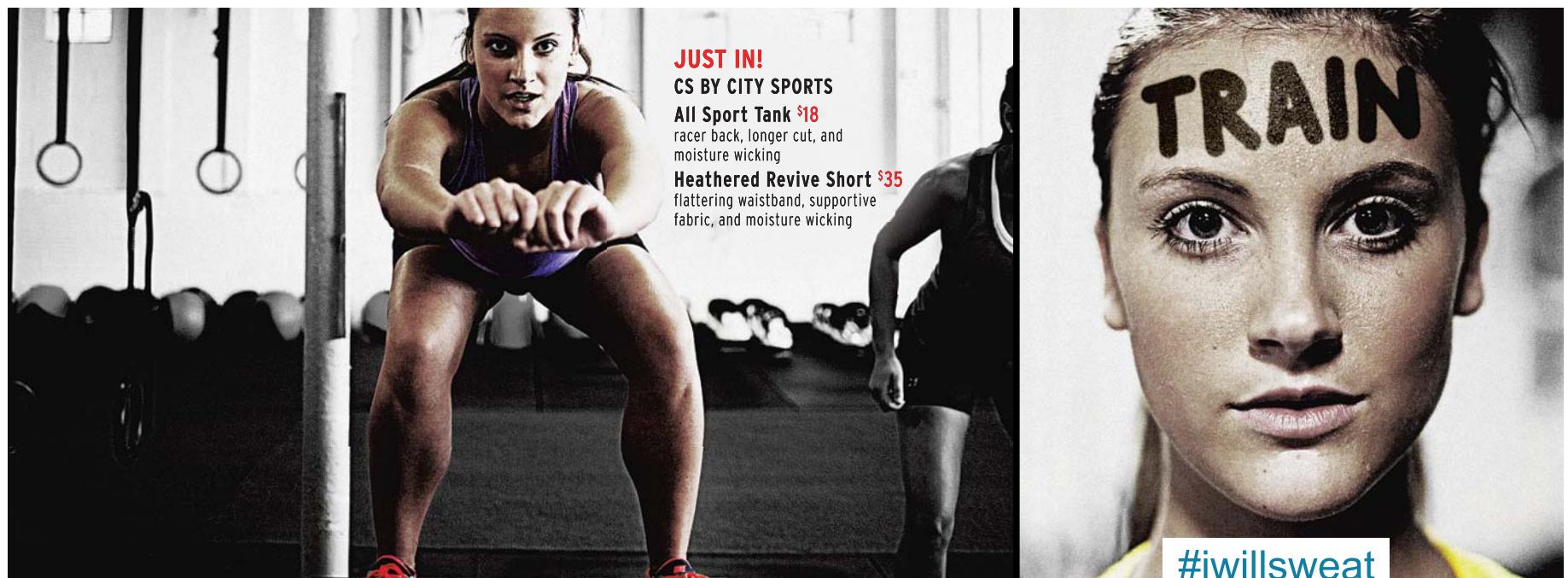
THURSDAY ONLY Hairspray discussion: Bring your lunch to the Mead Lobby for an informal discussion about the theater's current production, featuring Robert Aubrey Davis, who plays Edna Turnblad. Davis will discuss his radio career and turn into acting, and the origin of having a man in a female role in the musical, Thu. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-820-9771, Signature-theatre.org.

Hairspray: A teen who loves to dance becomes a local celebrity in Baltimore, through Jan. 29, \$62-\$86. Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington; 703-820-9771, Signature-theatre.org.

LAST CHANCE Jersey Boys: The musical tells the story of the rise of the Four Seasons, through Sat., \$36.50-\$276.50. National Theatre, 1321 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-628-6161, Nationaltheatre.org.

LAST CHANCE Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Musical: A tot experiences

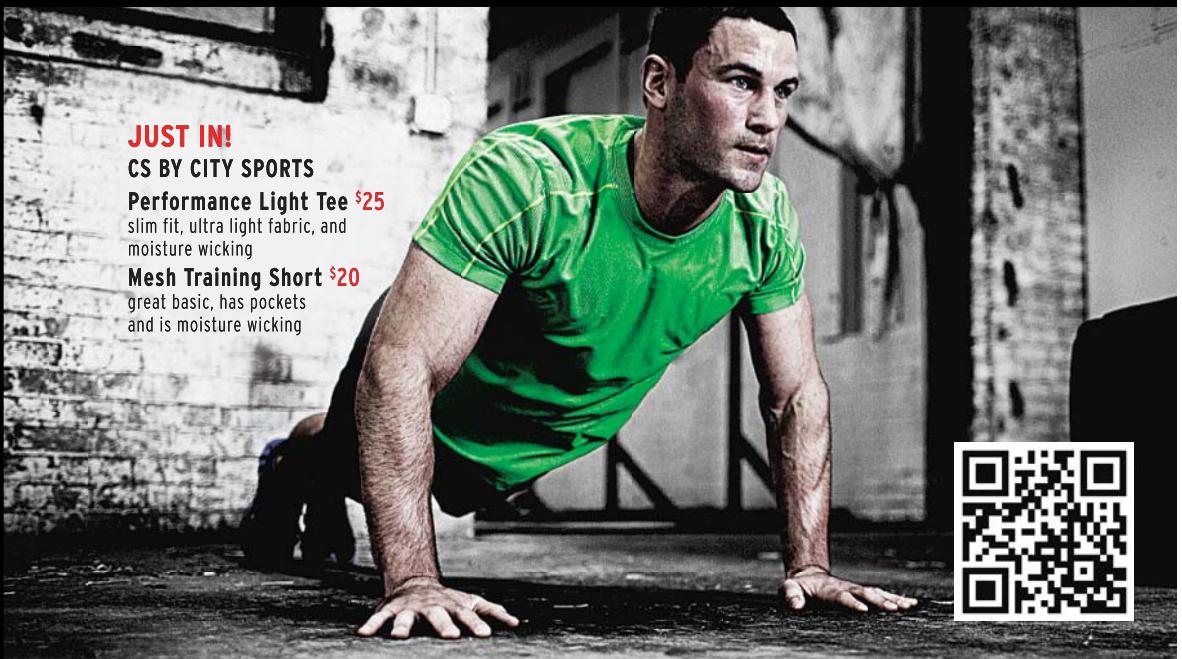
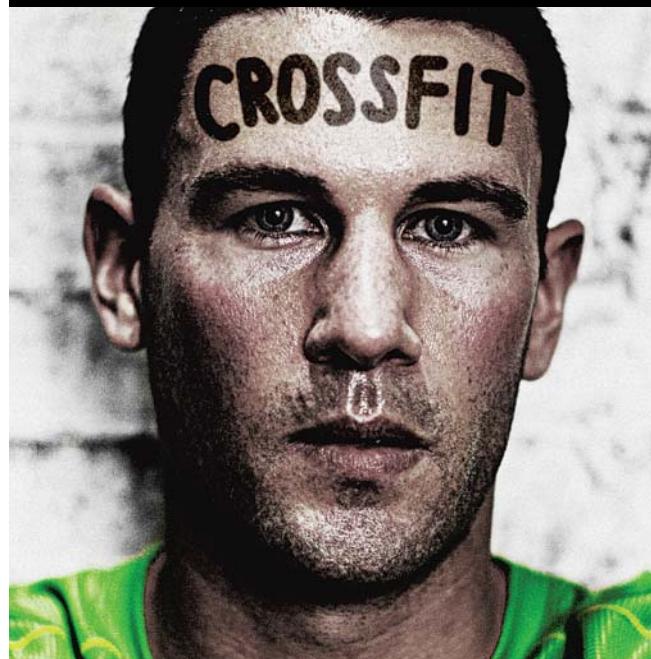
Continued on page E23



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6 FRI ★ Canzoniere Grecanico Salentino

The seven-piece band brings 21st century life to the beautiful folk music of Italy's past, from love songs to pagan rites and the frenzied dance of the tarantula bite.

7 SAT ★ ○ Family Night: Asian American Music Society

The group presents its young artists in a classical music program.

IN THE TERRACE THEATER

8 SUN ★ Nidhal Jebali and Kimball Gallagher

Rising-star Tunisian violinist Jebali and American pianist Gallagher play a program featuring their own original compositions, as well as works by Franck, Paganini, and Jaloul Ayad, the Tunisian Minister of Finance.

ALL PERFORMERS AND PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.



6 FRI ★ CANZONIERE GRECANICO SALENTINO

9 MON ★ Héctor Del Curto Tango

The Argentinean bandoneónist shows how he has captivated audiences around the world as a soloist and chamber musician.

10 TUE ★ Maedgen/Gillet

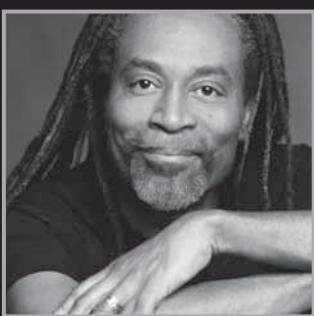
The Preservation Hall Jazz Band member, a multi-instrumental singer, songwriter, and composer performs with the cellist and vocalist, known for her free improvisation with New Orleans jazz, funk, country rock, and French chansons.

11 WED ★ Bad Reputation: Pierre de Gaillande sings Brassens

Composer, singer, and songwriter Gaillande and his band offer adaptations of the songs of iconic French poet/singer Georges Brassens in English.

12 THU ★ Yoko K.

Born and raised in Japan, the Strathmore Artist-in-Residence is an electronic musician and vocalist who uses ephemeral organic electronica sounds and keen interest in creating art to promote social change.



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Live Internet broadcast, video archive, artist information, and more at kennedy-center.org/millennium



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PLEASE NOTE:
There is no free parking for free performances.

The Kennedy Center welcomes persons with disabilities.



The Kennedy Center

SETTING THE STAGE: Julia Krebs Patterson, top, and Jasmine Danielle Johnson are Nellie and Amelia, two mice who head for the cat-free, cheesy moon in Imagination Stage's "Mouse on the Move," an interactive show for kids 1 to 5.

goingoutguide.com | Weekend Pass

Continued from page E20

her first words, loss and love all in a trip to the laundromat. The musical, which had its world premiere at the Kennedy Center in May 2010, was adapted by Emmy-winner Mo Willems with music by Grammy-winner Michael Silversher, through Sun., \$20. Kennedy Center, Family Theater, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600. 800-444-1324, kennedy-center.org.

SATURDAY ONLY Locomotion: opens Sat., \$7, \$6 seniors, students and children. Montgomery College, Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, 51 Manankee St., Rockville; 240-567-5301, Montgomerycollege.edu/pac.

LAST CHANCE Mini One Act Festival:

Three short plays—"Perfectly Good Airplanes," "Waiting for Dingleman's Comet" and "Walking Off Pluto"—will be performed, through Thu., \$10. Laurel Mill Playhouse, 508 Main St., Laurel, Md.; 301-452-2557, laurelmillplayhouse.org.

Mouse on the Move: Children are given props to help the actors tell the story of two mice who venture to the moon, opens Fri., through Feb. 5, \$10. Imagina-

tion Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda; 301-280-1660, imaginationstage.org.

LAST CHANCE Much Ado About Nothing:

Shakespeare's romantic comedy about a battle of wits is staged, through Sat., \$25-\$105. Sidney Harman Hall, 610 F St. NW; 202-547-1122, Shakespearetheatre.org.

LAST CHANCE Parfumerie:

The Miklos Laszlo story that inspired the plot of the film "You've Got Mail"; the play is about two Budapest shop clerks who bicker at work but don't know that they have been exchanging anonymous love letters through the mail, through Sun., \$25. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean, Md.; 703-854-1856, 1ststagepringhill.org.

SATURDAY ONLY Plunkett and Tremolo:

Mark Jaster and Sabrina Mandell of Happenstance Theater portray two mute clowns who try to upstage each other with humorous results, opens Sat., \$8. Spectrum Theatre at Artisphere, 1611 N. Kent St., Arlington; 703-228-1150, Artisphere.com.

Shear Madness:

The audience joins the fun in this performance based on a murder in a hair salon, through Oct. 10, \$45.

Kennedy Center, Theater Lab, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600, 800-444-1324, kennedy-center.org.

LAST CHANCE Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies:

Woolly artists collaborate with Chicago's the Second City to present a comedic anti-holiday show, through Sun., \$35-\$67.50. Woolly Mammoth Theatre, 641 D St. NW; 202-393-3939, Woollymammoth.net.

The Religion Thing:

A perfect couple re-examine their relationship when the wife's friend finds Jesus in this comedy, through Jan. 29, \$30-\$60. Theater J, 1529 16th St. NW; 800-494-8497, TheaterJ.org.

The Sound of Music:

A musical about a governess, seven mischievous children and their stern father, through Jan. 22, \$26-\$54. Olney Theatre Center, 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney, Md.; 301-924-3400, Olneytheatre.org.

Time Stands Still:

A couple—a war photojournalist and a war correspondent—re-examine their relationship after the photojournalist is hurt by a roadside bomb, through Feb. 12, \$35-\$69. Studio Theatre, 1501 14th St. NW; 202-332-3300, Studiotheatre.org.

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13,14,15 eddie from ohio
13 Dan Navarro 14 Jake Armerding 15 Native Run

16 &17 STEPHANIE MILLS
19 In the Bandstand • All Standing, Doors 6 pm
ROBERT EARL KEEN Deep Dark Woods

20 RONNIE LAWS & TOM BROWNE

21 Cheryl Wheeler Peyton Tochterman
26 MAYSA

27 Iris Dement Pietra Brown

28 Charles Ross' ONE MAN LORD OF THE RINGS
His Django in 60-65

31 MARC BROUSSARD
"La Route au Mardi Gras" w/SUGAR + THE HI-LOWS

Feb 3 STEEP CANYON RANGERS Shannan Whitworth

4 SUZANNE WESTENHOEFER

6 THE YARDBIRDS

7&8 ERIC BENET

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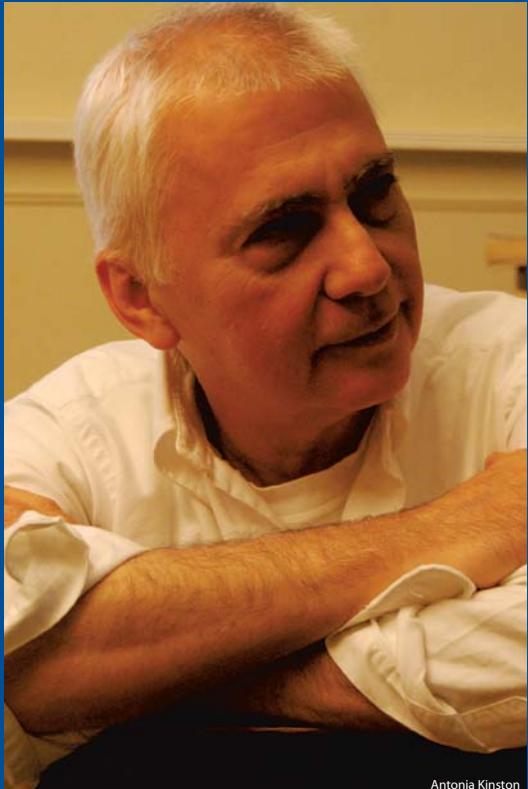
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Broadcast Muse



Up With 'Downton'

I'm the first to admit I know very little about "Downton Abbey," the super highly acclaimed PBS "Masterpiece" series about an upper-crust British family. I mean, I thought "Downton" was a misspelling of downtown — and it turns out to be the name of the family manse! To remedy my ignorance on

the eve of Season 2 (Sundays, 9 p.m.), I asked "Masterpiece" executive producer Rebecca Eaton for a few wise remarks to make while watching the show with fans:

1. What about Mr.

Pamuk? The Turkish diplomat died in the bed of eldest daughter Mary. "If the secret were to come out," says Eaton, "lives would be ruined."

2. What will the evil Miss O'Brien and the evil Thomas do now? The pregnant mistress of the house lost her baby when she slipped on a bar of soap left by the tub on purpose by embittered middle-aged maid O'Brien. Footman Thomas stole and falsely accused heroic Mr. Bates and had a sexual-predator-type tryst with a visiting gentleman.

3. What will Maggie Smith, as Lady Grantham, say next? Sample Season 1 barb, in response to a comment that things are different in America: "I know. They live in wigwams."



Read Marc's previous columns at: expressnightout.com/muse



Lovers in Love

The rumors are true: Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel will wed **23**

Soundtrack Your Life

It's easy to get lost in the evocative and enchanting sounds of Symmetry's 'Themes'

Album Review

As we speed-surf the choppy seas of YouTube in search of new sounds, two minutes spent watching a music video can actually feel like a serious time commitment. So what happens when a chunk of music asks for two hours of our lives?

That's the running time of "Themes for an Imaginary Film," an expansive and enchanting new



Themes for
An Imaginary
Film
Symmetry

album by Symmetry, a collective of musicians assembled by Johnny Jewel of the Portland, Ore., neo-disco duo Glass Candy. Last year, Jewel contributed a handful of stylish electro-pop songs to the soundtrack of "Drive," a very real film starring the hunky and ubiquitous Ryan Gosling. Here, Jewel has delivered 36 tracks of his most evocative avant-pop yet. "Your life is the film," the album's liner notes declare, "this is the soundtrack."

"Themes" feels like another step in the portability of pop and how we stitch music into our daily routines. From car stereo to Walkman to iPod, we've been exponentially soundtracking our lives for decades. And it has revealed cer-



Johnny Jewel, left, assembled a collective of musicians — including the Chromatics' Ruth Radlet, right — to form Symmetry.

Suggestions

Mundane No More

"Themes" delivers on its promise of making life feel cinematic — no matter how mundane. Listen to this album at the Safeway, and your search for organic rice vinegar becomes an explorer's quest for an ancient relic. Play it while you clean your apartment, and scrubbing the toilet becomes as exigent as defusing a bomb. Take it on a jog, and you're not just running — you're running from something. C.R.



At Your Own Pace: Netflix will debut its first original series, "Lilyhammer," in an unconventional manner. All eight episodes will be available to stream starting Feb. 6. "If you love the first episode, there is no need to wait until next week, or to set a DVR, to catch the next one," Netflix's Ted Sarandos said in a statement. The comedic crime series stars Steven Van Zandt, left, as a gangster in witness protection who moves to Lillehammer, Norway. (EXPRESS)

tain truths about the artists we hold dearest. Tom Petty will always sound great on the loneliest highways the same way that Madonna will always sound great on the loneliest treadmills.

Jewel isn't writing pop music of that caliber, but his soundscapes are still very easy to get lost in, whether you're on the road, at the gym, hiking in the woods or foraging in the produce aisle.

All but one of the album's songs are instrumental, and they are built around warm analog synthesizer tones that, instead of dissolving into ambient porridge, consistently

generate a sense of urgency.

When Ruth Radelet of the Chromatics teleports in to sing the love-lorn finale track, "Streets of Fire," it brings the album to a misty-eyed conclusion. "I watch the moon hang in the air," she sings. "I feel the cool breeze through my hair. ... I'm still here waiting for you."

It's lovely — and because the lyrics provide such specific images, it's a little bit cruel, too. When Radelet sees that moon and feels that breeze, it seems selfish after two hours of music that allowed us to go wherever our imaginations allowed.

CHRIS RICHARDS (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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Life After Pet Death

'American Stuffers' details the day-to-day at a taxidermy office

Reality

APL 10:00

"American Stuffers" follows the formula of many recent series. It's set in rural America — Romance, Ark., to be exact. Several characters describe themselves as "rednecks" with unabashed pride. It follows one man's exotic trade and features workplace shenanigans and light-hearted marital tiffs.

Daniel Ross is both the boss and owner of Xtreme Taxidermy and the sole voice of sanity. If you can consider the foremost practitioner of pet taxidermy to be entirely sane.

Daniel has a loving schoolteacher wife, a few cute, indifferent sons and a shop full of characters. Particularly intriguing is Fred, a silent, self-trained fellow who just "drifted" into the shop and the trade.

But the real stars of the show



Xtreme Taxidermy owner Daniel Ross stuffs cats, snakes, roosters, dogs and more.

are the very odd clients, like a grizzled biker who arrives to pick up the stuffed version of his dead dog, Turd. He repeatedly tells us that Turd was like a child. But if you were to name your child Turd, you'd probably get a call from Social Services — even in Romance, Ark.

Other morbid moments concern a giant tattooed guy and his petite wife who drop off their deceased Chihuahua, Toot Toot, for the

Xtreme treatment. For all of the grotesque shots of the taxidermy process, these scenes of dead pets and their limp, inert bodies are the most jarring and heart-wrenching.

Many of those grim procedures fall to Dixie, the new college intern, who barely stifles her gag reflexes before settling into the workplace routine. What people will do to get on television!

KEVIN McDONOUGH (UNIVERSAL UCLICK)

Best Bets

ABC 8:00

Wipeout "Winter Wipeout" returns with a new co-host — Vanessa Lachey — and cold-weather-themed obstacles that include Snow Shovel Trouble, Pain in the Ice and Candy Pain Lane.



The Vampire Diaries Klaus uses violence to make his point to Damon and Elena that he's serious about getting the bodies of his family members back from Stefan. Tyler discovers that being a hybrid has pros and cons. Jeremy's attitude has Elena and Alaric fearing for his safety.



Grey's Anatomy The eldest daughter of a family involved in a nasty car crash is forced to make the hardest decision of her life. Teddy, still unaware of Henry's death, asks Cristina to help her in surgery. Lexie (Chyler Leigh, left) works alongside Julia, Mark's new girlfriend.

HIST 10:00

Big Shrimpin' Roundhead wants reassurance that last season's success wasn't a fluke. Bullfrog is eager to prove that a young guy can hold his own with the veterans. And Redbone has had to cope with losing his father. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)

Fashion



They're Back!

"Project Runway All Stars" (9 p.m., Life), boasts no Heidi Klum, no Michael Kors, no Nina Garcia and — gasp! — no Tim Gunn, but familiar faces abound. Designers from seasons past return, including Mondo Guerra; Austin Scarlett, above; and Sweet P. Taking the reins are model Angela Lindvall as host; Marie Claire editor-in-chief Joanna Coles as mentor; and designers Isaac Mizrahi and Georgina Chapman as judges. (TM)

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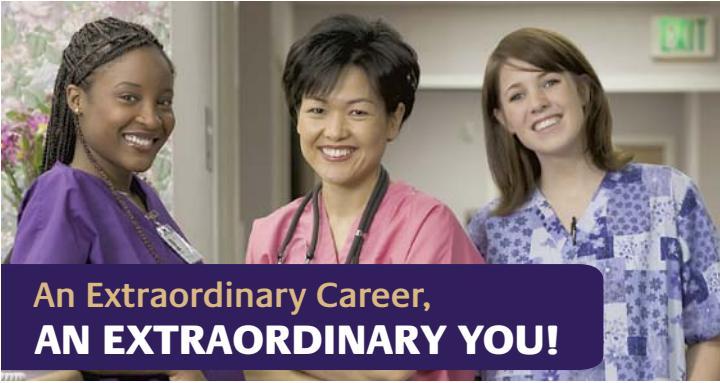
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ALEXANDRIA/VA- Rt 15, near Wal-Mart. Large furnished BR in TH. N/S. Male pref. \$600/mo includes utilities. **703-780-7484**

ARLINGTON/SOUTH, VA - Single Family House to Share, 1 Room for Rent. Call or Text **703-999-4036**

ASHBURN Room in SFH to share, 1 min to Greenway & shopping. \$675 inclc util & FIOS **571-242-0922**

ASHBURN-TN to Shr, 2 BR's avail, shr BA, free cable & internet. Nr shopping center. \$550/mo inclc utilities. NP.NS. **703-655-4474**

BURKE Furn room avail. 1 person, no-smoking, quiet. Shr W/D, Fridge, living and Dining room. Please call **703-309-5859**

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CLINTON- Nice home, all utilities & cable included, washer/dryer. \$600/mo. Call **202-277-1044**

ROOMMATES

Fairfax Station—\$600, 1 br, 1 ba, 10608 barnswallow ct, Fairfax, VA, heat, 7032170970

FORT WASHINGTON - Large house to share. Free cable. Close to Metro. W/D. \$150/wk. Call **240-882-8973**

HYATTSVILLE/LANDOVER Rm for rent in shared house. Starting at \$450+. utils. Sec. dep. req. Please call **240-401-0532**

KINGSTOWNE,VA - Free rent & utilities for live-in aide with own bed & bath. Must be available 11-5pm. **703-347-7884**

LARGO Room, \$600 includes utilities, free cable, share bathroom. No pets or smoking. Call **240-338-0955**

LAUREL,MD - Wall-to-wall, W/D, DW, near bus & shopping. 1BR. \$525/\$575 inclc utils. Call **240-475-4072**

NE/Ft Totten Metro - Prof. Female to shr unfurn BR, 4BR, 2.5BA SFH. N/S, Cable, Wi-Fi, maid svc. CAC/heat \$850/m inclc utils. **202-494-3692**

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UPPER MARLBORO, MD-Shr SFH, furn rm, \$600/m or \$300/2 wks. \$150 sec dep. Quiet area, nr Mall. **301-237-6862**

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Blog Log



“There may be another ‘Bridesmaids’ movie that has nothing to do with Kristen Wiig. This is like ‘Laverne and Shirley’ when there was no Shirley! ... What is the address to send stained wedding dresses in protest?”

— GAWKER.COM’S BRIAN MOYLAN is not happy that Wiig might not be part of a “Bridesmaids” sequel due to money issues with the first film.

“Pat Robertson talked to God the other day. He says that God told him who is going to be the next president of the United States. But he told him not to tell anybody yet. ... [We] asked Robertson for God’s phone number so that we could ask him who the next president would be. Robertson said God told him not to give his number out like that.”

— LOOP21.COM pokes fun at the televangelist’s recent claims about 2012 on the Christian Broadcasting Network.

“Watch it, and if you’re a white girl, look in the mirror and ask yourself ‘Is this me?’ If the answer is yes, you’re probably an unintentional r-cist. Sorry this video had to be the one to tell you.”

— MICHELLE COLLINS AT BESTWEEKEVER. TV got the message loud and clear after watching the YouTube video “[Things] White Girls Say ... to Black Girls,” starring comedian Franchesca Ramsey.

“Big news this morning, particularly for those of you right around my age. And by that I mean in the high school class of 2005. Don’t pretend like you don’t remember jamming out to SMIIILE LIKE YOU MEEEAN ITTTTT. Well, word is out: The Killers are hard at work on a new LP.”

— SUNSETINTHETARVIEW.COM is looking forward to what the Las Vegas-born band has to offer in 2012.

— A COMMENTER AT ARBROATH. BLOGSPOT.COM reacts to the story of a wild panda found eating a dead wildebeest at a reserve in China this week.

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Puzzles

Horoscope

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Environmental changes needn't upset your plans today; they are to be expected, and you can adjust accordingly every step of the way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) If you're not able to get everything done, you may have to be creative after hours—and you can do something quite rare.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Messages you receive through unusual channels may be more important to you in the long run than they are when you first decipher them.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Take the time to lend a helping hand today; you'll feel as though you are involved in something important—and so you are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Stay put today and do what you can to catch up with personal correspondence. Not everyone needs a long message; a simple hello will do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You may be surprised to learn that someone close to you shares much of the same outlook and ambition as you have—so why not work together?

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may be able to score an important first today—though it won't compare with what you can do when you get some practice under your belt.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) The familiar is likely to make you feel safe and comfortable throughout much of the day. Don't let a stranger pull the rug out from under you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Take the time to do that unusual job right—or you're not likely to find the time to fix it later. Today's endeavors count for much.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) What goes through your mind when you are most relaxed today will be worth some serious thought—but not necessarily right away, of course.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

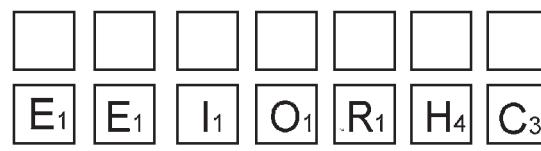
Retrospection can be as valuable to you today as looking at the future—though you mustn't overlook your present situation, surely.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

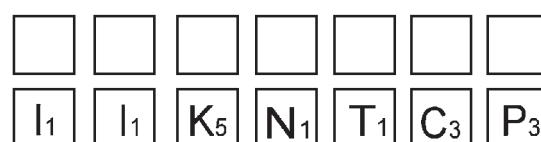
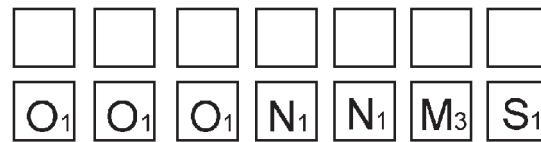
You may have to explain yourself to someone before the day is out—but only if you want to be liked more than you already are.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 195-205, BEST SCORE 264



2nd Letter Double



Double Word Score



Yesterday's Solution

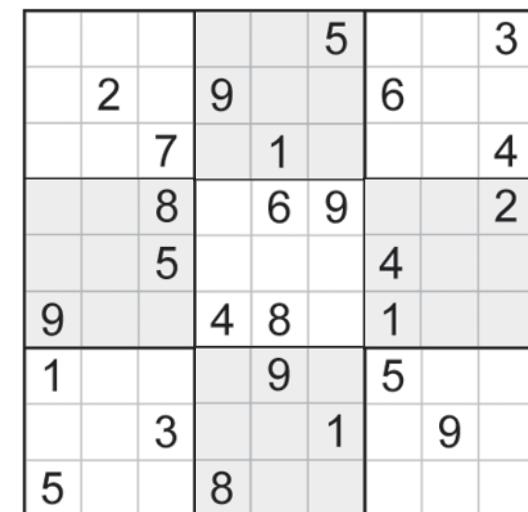
G ₃	L ₁	O ₁	B ₃	U ₁	L ₁	E ₁
W ₄	R ₁	I ₁	T ₁	E ₁	R ₁	
C ₃	R ₁	A ₁	Z ₁	I ₁	L ₁	Y ₄
V ₄	I ₁	B ₃	R ₁	A ₁	T ₁	E ₁
PAR SCORE 150-160						
RACK 1 = 60						
RACK 2 = 9						
RACK 3 = 92						
RACK 4 = 70						
TOTAL 231						

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

DIFFICULT



Yesterday's Solution

7	3	8	2	1	5	9	4	6
9	1	6	8	7	4	5	3	2
2	5	4	3	9	6	7	8	1
4	8	1	7	3	9	2	6	5
6	7	5	4	2	8	3	1	9
3	9	2	5	6	1	4	7	8
8	6	3	9	4	2	1	5	7
1	4	9	6	5	7	8	2	3
5	2	7	1	8	3	6	9	4

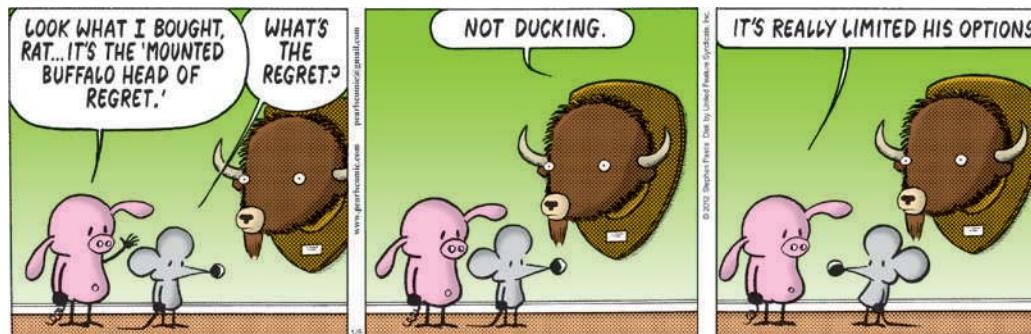
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Find another puzzle in
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The Post every Sunday
and in the Style section
Monday through Saturday.
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Comics

POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast



44 | 31

Today: Mostly sunny and not as cold today. Partly cloudy tonight.



54 | 37

Tomorrow: Partly sunny and not as cool tomorrow. Partly cloudy tomorrow night.



Looking Ahead



SAT

SUN

MON

56 | 34 | 48 | 33 | 46 | 34

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 7:27 a.m.

Sunset today: 5:00 p.m.

Moonrise today: 2:02 a.m.

Moonset today: 4:10 a.m.

Almanac

Normal high: 43

Record high: 73

Normal low: 29

Record low: -3

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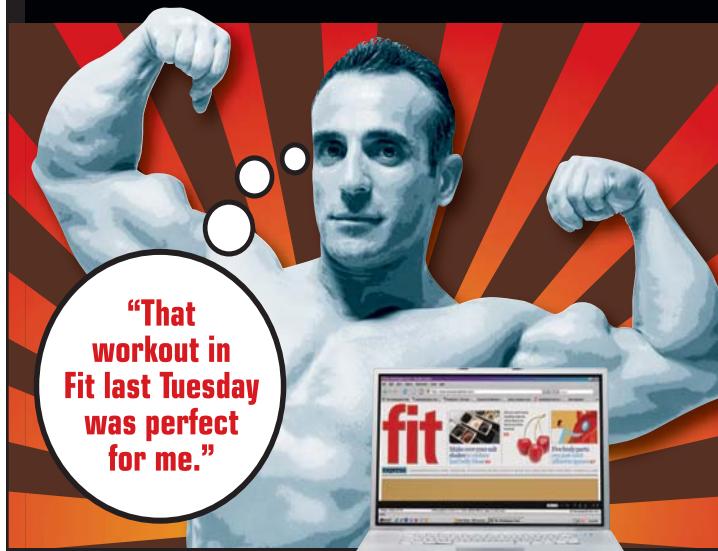
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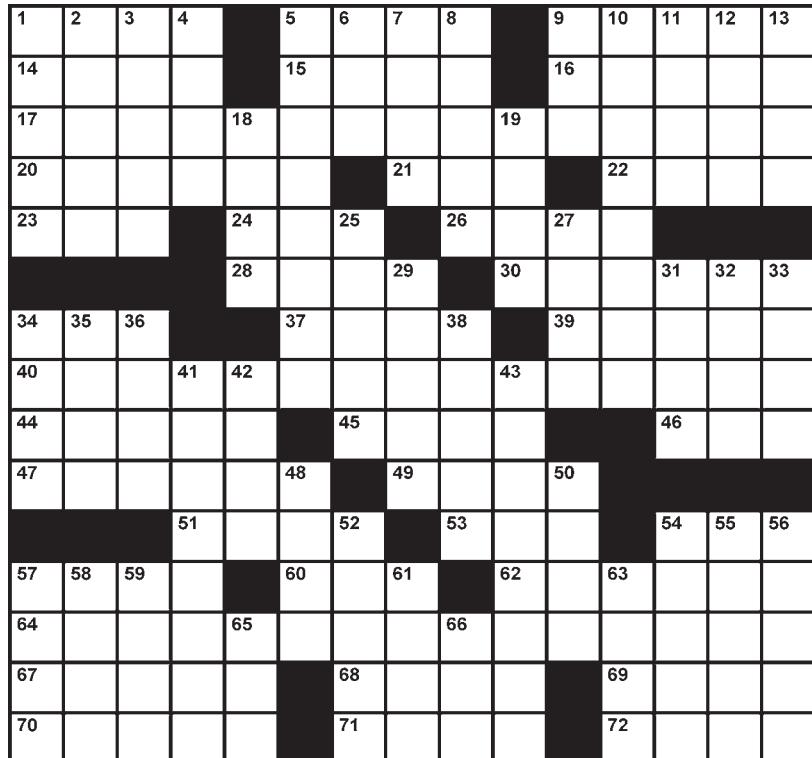
Puzzles

Crossword

CORN HARVEST

ACROSS

- 1 Kind of starch or pudding
- 5 Closing passage in music
- 9 Biblical song
- 14 Bedside water pitcher
- 15 Burden
- 16 Silklike fabric
- 17 Corny warning?
- 20 Chinese dumplings
- 21 Lock fitter
- 22 Fit ___ (suit perfectly)
- 23 Boar's abode
- 24 Wagon wheel depression
- 26 Vent violently
- 28 Drop from the invitation list
- 30 It turns people blue
- 34 "Isn't ___ Lovely?" (Stevie Wonder hit)
- 37 King Hussein of Jordan, for one
- 39 Old-womanish
- 40 Corny Jack Nicholson film?
- 44 "The Little Mermaid" mermaid
- 45 Devoid of moisture
- 46 Swindler's easy target
- 47 Does a certain ballroom dance
- 49 Use pinking shears
- 51 Act like an antelope
- 53 Self-centeredness
- 54 Porky's penultimate word
- 57 Famously hilly city
- 60 Albanian currency unit
- 62 Abdominal protrusion
- 64 Corny psychology sessions?
- 67 Expansive view
- 68 A ___ formality
- 69 "Nay" and "uh-uh"
- 70 Odes, sonnets, etc.
- 71 Alaskan malamute's burden
- 72 One wet behind the ears



EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

- 4 Grampuses
- 5 For a group rather than individuals
- 6 Hydrogen's number
- 7 Dawn's opposite
- 8 Daisy's relative
- 9 No longer an amateur
- 10 Semisweet golden table wine
- 11 Early Christian pulpit
- 12 Country music star McCann
- 13 Gathering at the track
- 18 Couple's possessive
- 19 Scandinavian rugs
- 25 Istanbul natives
- 27 End to be attained
- 29 Afflictions
- 31 Sheds
- 32 First name in Olympic gymnastics
- 33 "Read 'em and ___!"
- 34 It's played with less than a full deck
- 35 Mother of Ares
- 36 "___ go bragh!"
- 38 Wind-___ (carried by a breeze)
- 41 Gives the cold shoulder to
- 42 Shower gel ingredient
- 43 Made heavy
- 48 Bad thing to get in a wound
- 50 Rhymed verse
- 52 Salon jobs
- 54 Irritate
- 55 Metric unit
- 56 Dogie catcher
- 57 Wedding invitation letters
- 58 Youngstown's state
- 59 Urania, e.g.
- 61 Hull attachment
- 63 Budget category
- 65 Boastful Round Table knight
- 66 "Who ___ you kidding?"

Yesterday's Solution



Today in History

1925 Nellie T. Ross of Wyoming becomes America's first female governor.

1970 "All My Children" premieres on ABC.

1972 President Richard Nixon announces that he has ordered development of "an entirely new type of space transportation system," the reusable space shuttle.

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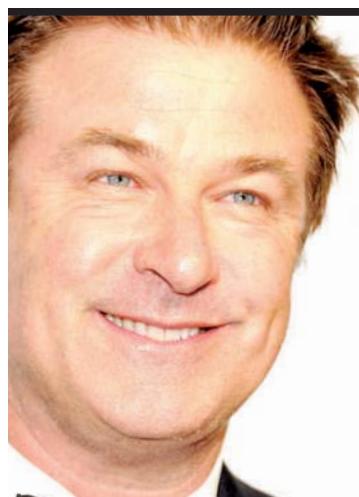
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**GROCERIES****'This Kale Has Been Smiled Upon by Alec'**

Wegmans Food Markets will continue running television ads featuring Alec Baldwin. The chain discontinued the ads because of Baldwin's run-in with American Airlines. "Hundreds and hundreds of tweets, emails, and phone calls" followed in support of the actor. "We have decided to run the commercials again, effective immediately," Wegmans said in a statement. (AP)

AILING**Nick Cannon Suffers 'Mild Kidney Failure'**

Nick Cannon is in an Aspen, Colo., hospital due to "mild kidney failure," his wife, Mariah Carey, tweeted. Carey posted a picture on her website of a miserable-looking Cannon in a hospital bed as she lay beside him. She asked for prayers and said Cannon's situation was "very painful." She later called it a "serious moment that's very tough on all of us." (AP)



A nephrologist told People.com that Cannon will likely recover just fine.

Victims



Commerce Fake-Smilng

The Hallmark Channel has canceled "The Martha Stewart Show," the New York Post reported. The show will end in April, though some repeats will air. "We love working with the Hallmark Channel and are talking to them about daytime programming in the future," said a spokeswoman for Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia. (EXPRESS)



LARRY BUSACCA/GATTY IMAGES

MOTIVES Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel are engaged after four and a half years of dating, Us Weekly reports. Timberlake reportedly popped the question in Jackson, Wyo., in December. "Justin knows how much she loves snowboarding and the mountains, so it was the perfect place," said an unnamed source. "He knew it was the right time to propose." (EXPRESS)

'Mom, Will You Shut Up Now?'

GOALS**'Quick, Girls, Diet! We're Going to Be Lifelike Dolls!'**

Limited-edition Barbie dolls will be made in the likenesses of Kim, Kourtney and Khloe Kardashian sometime in 2012, an unnamed source told Us Weekly. "The dolls will reflect the girls' measurements and may even come in Kardashian-designed outfits," the source said. This may explain a tweet Kim issued on Dec. 25: "Merry Christmas Barbs!" (EXPRESS)

"Spent beautiful evening of love making with nine [sic] other than husband. ... Yay!!!"



—SINEAD O'CONNOR, VIA TWITTER, ABOUT HER MARRIAGE TO BARRY HERRIDGE. "WE DECIDED TO BE BOYFRIEND AND GIRLFRIEND AGAIN AN STAY MARRIED."

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	FEB 16-18	JUDY GOLD
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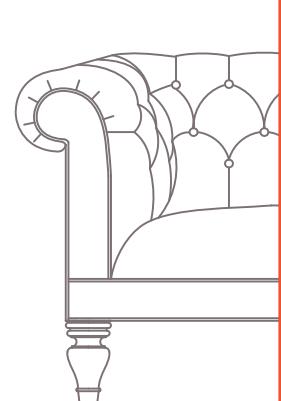
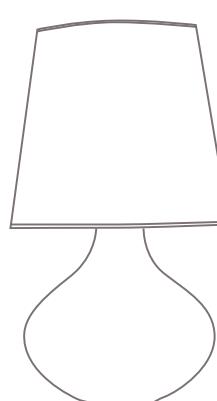
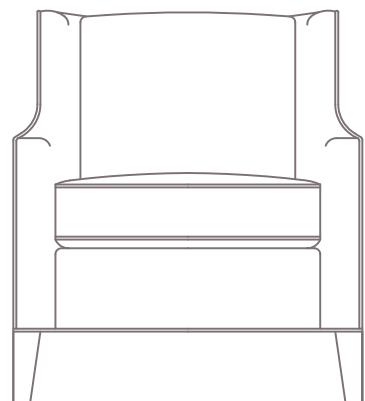
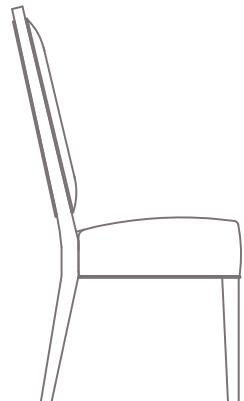
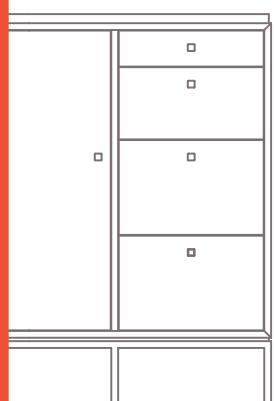
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